

# THE ATHENÆUM

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No 235. SEPTEMBER, 1901.

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## CONTENTS.

	PAGE
GOWER'S POETRY .....	305
BIGELOW ON COLONIZATION .....	306
THE COMTESSE D'HOUESTOT .....	306
THE LANCASHIRE PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY .....	307
LAW IN CICERO'S TIME .....	308
A HINDU EMPIRE .....	309
ENGLISH AND WELSH SURNAMES .....	311
NEW NOVELS (The Skipper of Barnraig; Sister Carrie; Sir Hector; Kestover Court House) .....	312-313
LITERATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT .....	313
SCOTTISH HISTORY .....	314
SPORTS AND PASTIMES .....	315
CLASSICAL TRANSLATIONS .....	316
MILITARY BOOKS .....	316
OUR LIBRARY TABLE (Harriet Meriçoff; Anglo-Saxon Saints; Princes and Poisoners; Studies of French Criminals; Reprints; Free Libraries) .....	316-317
LIST OF NEW BOOKS .....	317
BYRON AND PETRARCH; THE PAN-CELTIC CONGRESS; THE PUBLISHING SEASON; A NOTE ON 'WYNNE' AND WASTOUR; THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AT PLYMOUTH .....	318-319
LITERARY GOSSIP .....	320
SCIENCE—DEMOLISH ON SOCIAL TYPES; THE FEEDING OF ANIMALS; BOTANICAL LITERATURE; THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIES; GOSSIP .....	320-322
FINE ARTS—ANIMAL PAINTERS; ARCHITECTURAL LITERATURE; ROMAN REMAINS AT INCHTUTILL; GOSSIP .....	322-326
MUSIC—BELLINI; GOSSIP; PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK .....	326-327
DRAMA—'WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE'; 'VILLOXA' IN 'TIMON OF ATHENS'; GOSSIP .....	327-328

## LITERATURE

*The Works of John Gower.* Edited by G. C. Macaulay.—*French and English Works.* 3 vols. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THE value to be assigned to mere volume of production in estimating the work of a poet is still an unsolved—nay, almost an unraised problem. Value it has—a gem cutter does not rank beside a cathedral builder, and the poets that common consent calls great have been either struck down by untimely death or have written at length. Quality of product does not seem to matter so much; for example, Wordsworth's verse is to a considerable extent unreadable, yet while in his momentary flights of genius he towers far above any of his contemporaries, these flights alone would never have given him the assured reputation he holds. It seems as if in addition to the peculiar qualities which go to the making of a great poet the commonwealth of letters demands some proof of the capacity for taking pains which has been called genius, some sign that the noble word has come from a "maker"—a conscious producer. Yet on the other hand the production of a large quantity of good verse is a hindrance to the recognition of genius; when the stream is broad it is difficult to believe that it is deep. The Victorian age has furnished an example of this in William Morris, the seventeenth century in John Dryden, and the fourteenth in John Gower.

It is interesting to compare the literary reputation of Gower with that of his friend and contemporary Chaucer. Both poets seem to have enjoyed full recognition in their lifetime and from those of their successors who were still in a position to recognize the poetic value of their art, the advantage, if any, being on the side of Gower. But as the appreciation of fourteenth-century English verse gradually became impossible, the superior attraction of Chaucer's subject-matter asserted itself. A century passed in which both poets were

forgotten, till Dryden rediscovered the 'Canterbury Tales.' From that time forward Chaucer has been read by the few, and read about by the many, though, truth to say, till within the last thirty years hardly one of his readers could have had the slightest conception whether a line of it was good or bad verse. Things have now been altered, and the simple plan of reading fourteenth-century English poetry with modern vowels and accents has given place to an attempt to formulate the laws of sound, accent, and rhythm of its writers. That the attempt has not been uniformly successful is due partly to the lack of printed material, and partly to the fact that these laws have been formulated mainly by German scholars, to whom the somewhat wayward irregularities of English verse and the English accent are not instinctively familiar. With every fresh text published these laws stand out more clearly, and we may soon look forward to the time when the versification of Chaucer, Gower, Hoccleve, and Lydgate may be as readily studied as that of Plautus, Terence, and Lucretius.

The publication of Gower's complete works is a service rendered to English literature and philology, exceeded only in importance by the issue of the 'New English Dictionary.' If through Chaucer our literature becomes the heir of mediæval romance, Gower shows us more clearly our language in the making. His French is grammatically good, but his French verse is subject to English verse-laws; his English shows us French words but recently adopted striving to naturalize themselves in our speech. The wonderful uniformity of his verse leaves the reader in no doubt as to the vocalization of the words, and the accuracy of the MSS. enables him to use the whole verse as an authority, instead of relying only on the rhyme-endings as he is compelled to do in Chaucer. Important results may be anticipated from the study of Gower's English poems in connexion with those of Chaucer and Lydgate. Already they seem to dispose of certain theories of versification recently propounded, and incidentally to strengthen materially Prof. McCormick's theory as to the pronunciation of words like *ever*.

Gower rested his title to fame on three works, the 'Speculum Meditantis,' the 'Vox Clamantis,' and the 'Speculum Amantis.' Of these the first has until recently been looked on as lost, the second is printed only in a very limited edition, while the third has been printed by Caxton, 1483; twice by Berthelet, 1532 and 1554; by Chalmers, 1810; by Pauli, 1857; and by Morley, 1889. Only one of these texts professes to be a critical edition, and that is beneath contempt. The editor seems to have been hardly able to read his manuscripts, and certainly did not consult even all the London ones, while he almost ignored others less accessible. Mr. Macaulay has discovered and prints for us the French text of the 'Speculum Meditantis,' and, we may almost add, has rediscovered the English text of the 'Speculum Amantis.' Rediscovered we say, for after a study of all the known manuscripts he has found himself able to print almost in its entirety from a single MS., Bodleian Fairfax 3. An ingenious system of notation allows the reader to follow the variants of nineteen MSS. An important result of Mr. Macaulay's study is

to establish the fact that Gower superintended the preparation of the manuscripts of his work, so that we are in a position to say what Gower actually wrote, which we cannot do in Chaucer's case. This seems to be so too with the unique French MS. of the 'Mirour de l'Homme' ('Speculum Meditantis').

The discovery of this latter poem sets at rest the fear that a great piece of literature had been lost for ever, if it does not increase the sum of human pleasure. It adds little to our knowledge of Gower himself. Mr. Macaulay thinks he may have been born about 1345. Certainly his calling himself "old" in 1390 does not prove anything as to his age, except that he was not in his first youth—mediæval writers described themselves as "old" at forty or less. Certainly the fifty balades, his last work, betray no signs of decreased poetic vigour. It is to be hoped that in the forthcoming volume of his works all the known facts respecting him will be collected. The dates of the 'Confessio Amantis' have been settled by the simple process of looking at the manuscripts, a course that does not seem to have occurred to previous editors. It was this same habit that led Mr. Macaulay to the discovery of the 'Speculum Meditantis.' Gower called it in the first instance 'Speculum Hominis,' and our editor thought it not unlikely, therefore, that early MSS. would bear this name. He mentioned the idea to Mr. Jenkinson, and Mr. Jenkinson forthwith produced the MS.

We have spoken of the importance of this edition to the study of English phonology, but it must be added that at present there seems some danger of phonology becoming an end and not a means. After all, an accurate ear for the music of Chaucer's and Gower's verse is only one of the constituents of our literary pleasure in their works. It is equally important to possess some acquaintance with the common stock of knowledge of their time. 'Books that have Influenced Me,' by Chaucer and Gower, would yield a list of names strange indeed to the modern reader.

There was Tristram, which was believed  
With bele Ysolde, and Lancelot  
Stod with Gunnore, and Galahot  
With his lady—

are to him lines containing an empty string of names instead of an exquisite memory of living romance. If a writer of the thirteenth or fourteenth century took Tullius and Cicero for two writers and knew no Horace, he had, on the other hand, an intimate acquaintance with the 'Anticlaudian' and the 'Secreta Secretorum' as classics, with the 'Lancelot' and the 'Roman de la Rose' as moderns, and some knowledge of them is the price we must pay for reading him with understanding. Perhaps this price is too great, yet Gower especially has claims on us. He continues the serious English spirit of early English poetry, he tells his story with simple directness of style, his form presents no great difficulties, his characterization is successful, and his allusions are not recondite. Mr. Macaulay's notes are generally sufficient, and betray a growing interest in the subject-matter gratifying in one who, we suspect, began the edition as a mere philologist. Perhaps the reader will appreciate least the dead

level of excellence, the absence of purple passages, the monotonous regularity of the metre. Let him persevere, let him cultivate the taste for *longueurs*, and his reward shall be sure. But even the more careless reader will find as he dips here and there pleasant stories simply told, and with them some entry into the minds of the men of Poitiers and Agincourt. In short, editor and publishers have rendered a signal service to literature as well as to linguistics, and it behoves the public to accord them their hearty support by way of thanks.

*The Children of the Nations: a Study of Colonization and its Problems.* By Poultney Bigelow. (Heinemann.)

MR. BIGELOW'S book is pleasant and easy to read, but it is difficult to review. It is more entertaining than the promise of its title, but less serious, less well proportioned, less consecutive. No doctrine is taught, save the doubtful one of an "Anglo-Saxon" superiority, which happily combines the United States and the British Empire. The book is written from the American point of view, the Spanish Empire of history is examined more fully than the British Empire either of history or of the present, and in its pages "this country" means the United States.

Mr. Poultney Bigelow is impartial enough in his way; he is angry with his countrymen for treating with contempt the people of the Philippines, and writes: "Filipinos are highly intelligent creatures, and our fault has been to suppose that we can rule such people by force alone." He is friendly to Germany, but nevertheless traces the whole Boxer movement to the German high-handed seizure of Kiao Chow.

The most fresh and interesting passages in Mr. Bigelow's book are those in which he shows how language and history have caused Spanish-America to become Spanish in sentiment in spite of the efforts of the United States. The feeling which brings the New Englander to Shakespeare's birthplace and to Heralds' College takes the Spanish-American to Madrid:—

"The books that feed his mind, the periodicals that entertain his family.....are..... of old Spain.....The Court at which he appears with greatest satisfaction to himself (and his wife) is the Court of Madrid. We in America of the north are apt to think that the Spanish-American holds us in affection.....During the last war (1898) the sentiment throughout the Spanish-American republics was emphatically opposed to the United States, and in favor of the mother country."

It is farfetched to call the unearned-increment ordinance of the Germans at Kiao Chow "Henry George's theory." George was a late comer in the field of such proposals. We do not believe the statement that in 1760 "French Hayti had 400,000 settlers." It is significant of the decline in modern standards to find a Bigelow writing: "Far be it from me to wish a re-establishment of slavery to its former extent."

*Les Grandes Dames du XVIIIe Siècle.—La Comtesse d'Houdetot, une Amie de J. J. Rousseau.* Par Hippolyte Buffenoir. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

LOVE-LETTERS, whether in fiction or history, have recently been much in favour in the literary market, but have not unfrequently betrayed a taste of which it is scarcely possible to approve. It is therefore refreshing to peruse a correspondence which reflects favourably on the morality and genius of its writers: a result no doubt due to the passionate sincerity of Jean Jacques and the ethereal "amitié amoureuse" of his heroine, and in a lesser degree to the tact and skill displayed by M. Buffenoir in his treatment of a delicate theme. The work is a valuable document, both sentimental and historic; it affords not only new light on a famous affair, but also a good idea of the fashionable life of the eighteenth century.

Élisabeth Sophie Françoise de Bellegarde, nicknamed Mimi, was married at the age of eighteen to the Comte d'Houdetot. Of the latter Madame d'Épinay, his sister-in-law—who relates in her memoirs the business-like hurry with which the match was concluded—gives the following portrait:—

"Jeune homme de qualité, mais sans fortune, âgé de vingt-deux ans, joueur de profession, laid comme le diable et peu avancé dans le service; en un mot, ignoré, et suivant toute apparence, fait pour l'être."

Mimi herself openly allows:—

"Je me mariai pour aller dans le monde, et voir le bal, la promenade, l'opéra et la comédie, et je n'allai point dans le monde, et je ne vis rien, et j'en fus pour mes frais."

M. d'Houdetot's conjugal rapture was modified for forty-eight years by his intrigue with a married woman, but he proved himself nevertheless a decided champion of his wife's interest and rights. Moreover, he was an illustration of that singular eighteenth-century virtue, marital tolerance, ingeniously resolved into a problem play by Alfred de Vigny's 'Quittes pour la Peur.' Thus at the beginning of Sophie's lifelong intimacy with the Marquis de Saint Lambert, of whom the satirist Gilbert said that

la muse savante  
Fit des vers fort vantés par Voltaire qu'il vante,  
but whose victory over the heart of Madame du Châtelet must have been less agreeable to the patriarch of Ferney, the husband replied to Madame d'Aubeterre's mischievous disclosures, "Je n'ai droit, madame, de n'exiger de Madame d'Houdetot que de la décence dans sa conduite." This simple and easy condition was the basis of all his future conduct. Hence during fifty-two years (from 1751 to 1803) he persistently winked at happiness which was not his own, and after half a century of leniency was wont to repeat, "Nous avions, Madame d'Houdetot et moi, la vocation de la fidélité, seulement il y a eu un malentendu."

On the other hand, M. Buffenoir makes graceful apology:—

"Ces vieux amants ne cessaient de s'adorer, et se tenant par la main, souriants et charmés, ils s'avançaient vers le XIXe siècle, avec les élégances et les souvenirs de l'ancien temps. Ils avaient cette beauté paisible des choses qui durent, et leurs sourires disaient les longs bonheurs et la science profonde de la vie. Partout on les respectait et on les aimait. Les

générations nouvelles les considéraient avec une sorte de vénération spéciale, car ils offraient un spectacle rare, celui d'une immuable affection en dehors des conventions sociales et par le fait de leur seule volonté:

Vois-tu dans ces jardins ces charmes, ces ormeaux, S'approcher, s'embrasser, confondre leurs rameaux?

De nos chaînes, Doris, ils nous offrent l'image; Ils resteront unis jusque dans leurs vieux ans, Et sur un même lieu répandant leur ombrage, Ils tomberont ensemble accablés par le temps."

Rousseau himself cannot refrain from endorsing these charming lines of Saint Lambert when he writes:—

"S'il faut pardonner quelque chose aux mœurs du siècle, c'est sans doute un pareil attachement, que sa durée épure, que ses effets honorent, et qui ne s'est cimenté que par des vertus."

To many but superficially acquainted with the 'Confessions' and their hero this self-denial, especially in a century noted for its corruption and depravity, will seem almost incredible. Full praise is due to M. Buffenoir for having brought to light copious authorities which leave no doubt as to the platonic nature of Rousseau's nine months' intercourse with the amiable Sophie. It would be interesting to compare Rousseau's love-letters with those of Balzac, and it may be doubted whether the author of 'La Comédie Humaine' is the more romantic of the two. The fidelity of Madame d'Houdetot is confirmed afresh in the correspondence subsequent to the rupture wrought by the lover's indiscretion and pride and the envious hatred of his literary rivals:—

"Si je n'avais écouté qu'une passion criminelle, si j'avais été vil un moment et que je vous eusse trouvée faible, que je paierais cher aujourd'hui des transports qui m'auraient paru si doux! Privés de tous les sentiments qui nous avaient unis, nous aurions cessé de l'être; la honte et le repentir nous rendraient odieux l'un à l'autre: je vous hairais de vous avoir trop aimée, et quelle ivresse de volupté eût pu jamais dédommager mon cœur d'un attachement si pur et si tendre!.....Me seriez-vous aussi chère, après avoir comblé mes vœux, que vous l'êtes après m'avoir rendu sage?"

Considering the above, we venture to find M. Buffenoir's hesitation misplaced and unpleasant. He suggests that the lady, if she had been free from other entanglements, would have ended by throwing herself into Rousseau's arms, and is not sure that she did not do so after all:—

"Ne le fit-elle point? Est-il certain qu'elle ne céda pas à l'éloquence entraînante de son ami? Malgré les Confessions, il est difficile de se prononcer."

The letters supposed to have been burnt by Sophie are a reason for suspicion, but such grounds afford little reason to suspect a woman whose bulky correspondence with members of both sexes and all ages shows a genius for friendship. From her correspondence with Madame Necker we quote these significant lines, which have something more than the charm of overstating matters:—

"Vous avez mes dernières fleurs, vous aurez mes derniers fruits, et vous êtes bien sûre d'avoir jusqu'au dernier moment de ma vie tous les sentiments de mon cœur.....Vous savez que le seul être malheureux est celui qui ne peut ni aimer, ni agir, ni mourir.....Qu'a-t-on à désirer quand on peut jouir de l'amitié et de la nature?"



To the venerable Comte de Tressan of the Academy, whom she invites along with Benjamin Franklin, she writes: "Nous célébrerons à ce diner tout ce qui fait supporter la vie et ce qui l'embellit, la Liberté et les Grâces. Il y aura toujours des autels pour tous deux." The hearty welcome which greeted the American agent on his visit to Sannois, and the verses composed and recited on this occasion by the Countess, may be of interest to the English reader, although the lines are of a very conventional type. M. Buffenoir has somewhat arbitrarily grouped in tens forty of the lady's fugitive pieces, mostly conspicuous for delicacy of sentiment and grace, if not always free from the affectation of the age. That entitled 'Aimer' is an admirable *résumé* of her life:—

Jeune, j'aimai; le temps de mon bel âge,  
Ce temps si court, l'amour seul le remplit.  
Quand j'atteignis la saison d'être sage,  
Toujours j'aimai, la raison me le dit.  
Mais l'âge vient, et le plaisir s'envole,  
Mais mon bonheur ne s'envole aujourd'hui;  
Car j'aime encore, et l'amour me console.....  
Rien n'aurait pu me consoler de lui.

Other delightful little poems are dedicated to Damon (Saint Lambert); to Tressan, to whom a pretty compliment is paid:—

Viellir n'est que cesser de plaire:  
Tressan ne vieillira jamais;

also to Franklin, her children, and friends. Among these were the Crèveœur family, whom she patronized with incessant tenderness and tact, and the young and brilliant Signor Sommariva, in whose arms she peacefully expired at the age of eighty-three.

M. Buffenoir concludes his survey with a selection of opinions passed on Madame d'Houdetot by her contemporaries. Here the jealousy of Madame d'Épinay and the spiteful pride of Chateaubriand supply the few jarring notes in the chorus of praise. There is some useful information concerning the eight portraits or engravings of the Countess still extant, of which three are reproduced. In the appendix the most valuable document is undoubtedly the ode recited before Diderot by Madame d'Houdetot. To M. Buffenoir belongs the honour of having discovered the original edition. He has also carefully, if not finally, investigated the authorship of the poem. The solution he adopts, attributing it to a masculine pen, appears likely, the sonorous rhythm which is its peculiar feature being beyond the reach of the lady.

*Publications of the Lancashire Parish Register Society.*—Vols. V.—VII.: *The Registers of Walton on the Hill, 1586–1663.* Edited by Arthur Smith. (Wigan, Strowger & Son.)—*The Registers of Croston, 1538–1685.* Edited by Henry Fishwick, F.S.A.—*The Registers of Whalley, 1538–1601.* Edited by Thomas Backhouse Ecroyd. (Rochdale, Clegg.)

BEFORE the Lancashire Parish Register Society proceeds any further with its publications we should strongly advise the Council to call a special meeting, and, with the aid of record experts, to lay down hard-and-fast rules for the future guidance of its transcribers and editors. The purpose of the Society is excellent and its zeal admirable, but its performance is marred

by want of uniformity, and as a consequence by slovenly and unscholarly work. The volumes of its publications are uniform only in one sense. They are clothed in the same green cloth cover and stamped with the same stamp; but there the resemblance ceases. Different printers are employed, different paper, different type, different editorial methods, different (and indifferent) scholarship. This would certainly not have happened if the Society had been properly organized at the commencement. One printer, one paper, one type, ought to have been selected and adhered to; and, above all, an adequate and precise set of rules ought to have been drawn up and put into the hands of each editor and transcriber. The Council ought to have said in those rules how it had decided to print dates, viz., whether in Roman or Arabic numerals, on the right-hand or left-hand side of the column, and also how to represent the items son, daughter, filius, filia, uxor, buried, and so on. It ought to say whether or not it would modernize place-names in the text or leave the identification to the index. For the purposes of indexing it ought to lay down some general rule for the treatment of variants, and for the selection of a main heading, with a strict insistence upon a cross-reference for every variant. Lastly, not to mention other points, it ought to lay down an absolutely inflexible rule as to contractions. In the seven volumes already published there is every conceivable (and inconceivable) variety of representation of contracted forms. One editor prints Xper for Christopher, another extends it; one extends contractions in square brackets, another is capable of leaving place-names standing in his text as Tarl', Breth', Mawd', which are to be understood as meaning Tarleton, Bretherton, and Mawdsley. Such want of uniformity is not only of itself a nuisance, but it is also the one great source of unscholarly work.

Now in laying down a rule on this vexed head of contractions the Society ought to bear in mind that parish registers are, as a rule, English documents (therefore not Latin ones), written in the general cursive hand of the sixteenth or seventeenth century (therefore not written in court-hand Latin), written at a time when contractions had lost their stereotyped and literal form (therefore not strictly formal in the use of contractions); and, finally, that as the meaning of a register is always plain, there can be no dispute as to text and the import of the contractions. Consequently the reproduction of the contractions is needless from the point of view of disputed interpretation. The problem of the employment of record type to represent contractions is difficult in the case of a fourteenth-century document where an incorrect, unannounced extension may give rise to a distinct violation of meaning and may lead astray the student who has only the printed text before him. But in the case of parish registers the problem is entirely different. The parish clerks or clergymen who wrote these registers had had no training in Latin scribal court-hand contractions, in clerical formulae. What they employ, and that with the greatest diversity, are such abbreviations and such shapes of letters as were current in their day, just as a man to-day will

write Mr. for Mister. Such contractions possess no clerical, no philological, no grammatical significance at all. They have no uniformity, and, when put to the test, they show all manner of incorrectness. Finally, if we are to be the slaves to every man's slipshod contractions, must we not also introduce the literal oddities, the peculiarities of the shapes of the letters, the *h* with a downward tail, and a *c* like a *t*, and so on? This would be ridiculous. It is one of the instructions now issued to the editors under the Historical Manuscripts Commission to modernize even the *y* (= *th*). To do otherwise is an affectation of antiquity that is useless. In addition to this, when all is said and done, a parish register is not a chartulary. It is potentially of interest to every layman, every family, in a parish; and what knowledge can the ordinary layman be expected to have of contractions? How should he know that Drap' is intended for Draper and M'cer for Mercer?

For these reasons we should be disposed to say to the Society, Be bold; extend all contractions, modernize all place-names, preserve all personal names (with proper extensions of contractions), referring them in the index to one prevailing modern form with all variants in brackets, and with cross-references for each variant. If the Society should decide to adopt this plan, then it ought to issue to its editors a sheet with the admissible extensions of contractions. If not, then it should draw up a similar sheet showing by means of facsimiles the contractions which it recognized, and the correct record type corresponding thereto.

One of the volumes before us furnishes a speaking commentary on the woeful effects of the absence of a standard of reference. In the way of incorrect employment of record type there is hardly an atrocity which Col. Fishwick has not managed to commit in his Croston register. He has confounded the three forms representing *per*, *pro*, and *proe*, showing that he does not understand those contraction marks attached to the letter *p* which every tyro in record work understands: he does not know the difference between the straight line over a letter and the curved line over a short letter or through a long one, and consequently uses them indiscriminately, although they are directly opposite to each other in import. Accordingly, of the three forms of contraction for the name "William" which he prints, only one is correct. He has no idea of the correct use of superior letters, and on the other hand employs an apostrophe wildly as if interchangeable with any and every contraction. Col. Fishwick prints Blaw' and Solla', but omits to index them, evidently not caring to risk a conjecture; he prints Trou', and indexes it under Trow, and Gomm', and indexes it under Gomm; he prints Walto', Jackso', Wilso', and Nelso', instead of the final *o*; he prints the word *uzor* in four different ways, two of them wrong.

This is only a small part of a casual list drawn from a cursory glance through the book. But it is not merely in the incorrect employment of record type that Col. Fishwick's volume sins. It has evidently been badly transcribed. Many of the names fill the student with misgivings, and on some pages the numbers of blanks and notes



of interrogation are extraordinary. On pp. 162-6 there are no fewer than nineteen names left blank or marked with a [?]. Could not the transcripts in the diocesan registry have filled out the blanks or settled the queries? Surely the whole volume ought to have been systematically collated with the registry transcript. Finally, the index itself, instead of making up for the shortcomings of the text, only aggravates them. Omissions are frequent, main headings are duplicated, cross-references are incomplete and unsystematic, the internal order is here and there not alphabetical. Certainly the following main headings (under all the forms of which several names occur) ought to have been brought together and reduced to one form, with adequate cross-references for the variants: Anty, Auty, Atie, Aty, Awty, Awetie (all=Auty). Of these forms *Anty* is probably a misreading of *Auty*; *Aty* is printed *Aly*; *Awty* is printed *Awly*; and *Awetie* is printed *Auelie*; and so similarly for Badger and Bagger, Bison and Bymson, Cootin and Couten, Stenson and Stevenson, Scarsbuck and Swarsbuck, Tasker and Tazcker, and many other names.

The Council owes it to its subscribers to reprint this volume in a more scholarly guise.

For the sake of the Society it might be reasonably hoped that Col. Fishwick's volume would be exceptional. In the excess of its badness it doubtless is. But Mr. Smith's Walton Register is by no means free from record-type errors. There are five on p. 1, for instance. Even Mr. Ecroyd, whose work is throughout on a far higher level of scholarship, does not print perfectly.

In Mr. Ecroyd's Whalley Register there is abundant evidence throughout of fidelity in the transcript, of scholarship in the editing, and of industry and (what is most valuable) common sense in the indexing. Mr. Ecroyd's task, too, has been distinctly more difficult, as the register is in Latin. Yet we would suggest to him that to a person using his book cross-references in the index would have been invaluable. The selection of main heads is excellent, but there is not a single cross-reference. Now an index is only a finger-post to guide a weary searcher most quickly to his goal. In the case of a name with five or six variants there ought surely to be a cross-reference under each variant. Indeed, we would go further, and say that there ought to be a cross-reference under every possible (modern) variant, whether that variant occurs in the body of the book or not. For instance, under the name Reed possible modern variants are Read and Reid as well as Reade. These are forms which in a large index are alphabetically widely sundered from each other. They are all forms under which a person might look, say, for his own family name. Then let us help the poor searcher. Put a cross-reference under each of these variants to tell him to look under Read (or whichever we select) for what he wants. If Mr. Ecroyd had spent half his life in hunting through other people's (bad) indexes he would have grown to a chastened sense of the value of a cross-reference.

*The Legal Procedure of Cicero's Time.* By A. H. J. Greenidge. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

A CLOSE perusal of this valuable work leaves a strong impression of the author's competency for the execution of his somewhat difficult task. He, to be sure, describes his treatise as intended to give only an outline of procedure, and he therefore eschews controversy for the most part. But he has expended much labour on the collection and study of his material; his judgments on the many obscure problems which his subject presents are generally sober and sound; his arrangement of topics and style of exposition are at nearly all points lucid and satisfactory. We hope and believe that a work which will be very serviceable not only to students of Roman law, but also to readers of Cicero in general, will not quickly pass out of use, but that the author will find in a call for new editions opportunities for revision. The remarks we proceed to offer have this expectation in view, and are not to be taken as detracting from the opinion just expressed of the value which the treatise possesses. Few writings of the kind are more free from faults. Naturally the section which deals with the civil procedure is more open to criticism than that which treats of criminal procedure, for, as Mr. Greenidge pleads in his preface, it is necessary, in expounding the former, to make large use of evidence which lies outside Cicero's own writings and time, and therefore calls for the most cautious handling.

The indexes to the volume have been carefully compiled, and the register of passages from Cicero's writings of which mention is made in the text and notes will greatly enhance the value of the book for purposes of reference. We could wish, however, to see these indexes made even fuller than they are. It is too much to expect that every phrase in Cicero's writings which has a legal bearing should receive attention in the text and notes, but all passages of the kind which possess any real importance might have been garnered in the register, with a reference to the page on which the subject-matter of each is treated. Certainly it would be extremely useful to have such a dictionary of juridical passages occurring in the works of Cicero. Many are at present missing. Thus the phrase *inicum eiorare* occurs in 'De Fin.' 2, § 119, 'Phil.' 12, § 8, and 'Ad Herenn.' 1, § 22. References to *præscriptio* are found in 'De Fin.' 2, § 3, and 'De Orat.' 1, § 209. In the enumeration of phrases containing *vadimonium* the following, which all occur in Cicero's writings, are missing: *vadimonium concipere, constituere, facere, missum facere, obire, sistere*. The important phrase *causa cadere* is not to be found in the other index. The whole number of omissions, more or less important, is considerable.

Not a few writers on jurisprudence and topics connected with it have felt the difficulty of avoiding ambiguities of language. This work escapes the snare better than most, but here and there succumbs to it. In the introduction (p. 3) there is an exposition of the relation of procedure to right which suffers in clearness from the use of the word "symbol," a term which has often

been abused. "Procedure is always a symbolic manifestation of right." As one of two litigants is usually devoid of legal right, and both may well be, the statement seems hardly worth making. Confusion, again, lies in the word "complexity," as used on p. 4, where it is said that "the *elegantia* of the language and laws of the Twelve Tables was combined with an extraordinary complexity of procedure." Here "rigidity" or "formalism" would have been more accurate, for late procedure was in one sense more complex than earlier, in that it was vastly more varied. The assertion (p. 29) that for over a hundred years the urban prætor was "the sole civil magistrate of Rome" is not well expressed. Even if the phrase "civil magistrate" be restricted to the sense of magistrate dealing with civil, as opposed to criminal law, the phrase is not accurate, in view of the special jurisdiction of ædiles and censors. A passage on p. 42, concerning the "plebeian blessing" which "embraces the centumvirs" and the "plebeian curse" which "rests on their oppressors," will surely be found obscure by many. We are inclined to protest against the description of the early Roman constitution as "theocratic" (p. 8) or "quasi-theocratic" (p. 298). The blending in it of secular and religious authority, and the eminently worldly and business-like character of early Roman religion, render the terms inappropriate.

It is only natural that, among the very numerous explanations of and deductions from particular passages, some should call for reconsideration. On p. 122 the important description by Cicero of his Cilician edict (in 'Ad Att.' 6, 1, § 15) is held to prove that he considered himself free from the trammels imposed on prætors at Rome by the Cornelian enactment of 67 B.C., "ut ex suis edictis perpetuis prætores ius dicerent." But the passage does not properly lead to this conclusion. With regard to a certain department of litigation Cicero says "dixi me mea decreta ad edicta urbana accommodaturum." These words are far from implying that he allowed himself a latitude; rather he bound himself to follow the urban edict. And there is grave doubt whether Mr. Greenidge's view of this *lex Cornelia*, viz., that it took away from the prætor some power previously recognized, is well founded. The passage of Asconius in which the law is described indicates that it interfered only with corrupt prætors (*ambitiosi*) who were accustomed *varie ius dicere*. That is to say, it penalized a practice which must always have been regarded as illegitimate, although, like many other practices deemed such at Rome, it had been subject to no adequate restraints. At p. 34 a wrong meaning is put upon certain words of Cicero in 'Pro Balb.' 21, concerning the adoption of Roman laws in Latin towns before the bestowal of the franchise. Cicero does not say that the Latins adopted "innumerable laws," but that innumerable laws were passed at Rome, of which the Latins adopted any they chose. The famous phrase of Tacitus ('Ann.' 3, 27) mentioned on p. 26, *finis æqui iuris*, does not, we think, mean "the consummation of equal law," but, as the context clearly shows, "the last example of fair legislation." Furneaux has an excellent note on the point.

The remaining criticisms we have to offer are of a miscellaneous character. To begin with, is it worth while to talk, as Mr. Greenidge does, of "laws of Romulus"? Plutarch's statement that, under these laws, the husband who sold his wife was "sacrificed" to the infernal gods is only a misunderstanding of the old sanction "sacer esto." On p. 43 it is asserted that the judges called *centumviri* were, "through the main period of the Republic," selected by the *prætor urbanus*; on p. 264 that "in the Ciceronian period they were perhaps elected not only from but by the thirty-five tribes assembled in the *comitia tributa populi*"; but is there any reason to suppose that in the late Republic a change took place in the mode of appointment? Mr. Greenidge assumes, with Polybius, that the oldest Roman treaty with Carthage dates from the beginning of the Republican period; it would have been well to point out that the date has been held by several eminent scholars to be impossible early. There is no sound authority for *pignoris captio* (in place of *capio*). We read: "In Cicero's speeches it is true that *iudicium* and *formula* are so closely connected that the one might in every instance be written for the other." Mr. Greenidge can hardly have made the experiment. P. 180 mentions "the security which the law sometimes compelled the *procurator* to furnish." But Gaius asserts that security was always required of the *procurator*, and there is no ground for supposing the law to have been different in Cicero's time.

We must consider at some length the remark: "Of all Cicero's speeches that for *Cæcina* shows the closest legal argument." It is true that the speech is more concerned with law (of a sort) and less with fact than any other, but does the argument deserve to be called close? Legal issues which are important to the case are handled briefly and falteringly, while points that are trivial or irrelevant are laboured *ad nauseam*. Mr. Greenidge's judgment on this speech seems to be disputable in many respects, and moves us to disagreement more than any other portion of his work. On p. 566 he says: "The best argument for the possession of *Cæcina* [i.e., for the allegation that he had juridical possession of the land in dispute] is the physical act of collecting rents." But Cicero's whole treatment of the question of *Cæcina*'s possession is highly suspicious. He never grapples with it in earnest, but touches on it briefly and timidly, now and then, and is always in a great hurry to get away from it again. Even in the passage to which Mr. Greenidge refers he mentions the issue only in a few words, and then abruptly breaks away from it, without meeting the obvious objection that the rent received by *Cæcina* may merely have been arrearage due to *Cæsennia*, and therefore, apart from the question of possession, due to her heir. The story of the case, even as told by Cicero, shows that there had been no time for any appreciable amount of fresh rent to accrue. If Cicero had been able to adduce solid proofs of possession, the speech would have been filled with them, instead of the wretched stuff about *ius* and *vis*, and "non deieci sed obstiti," and other padding of the same sort. P. 285: "The *prætor* bids them [the creditors]

choose a president (*magister*) from among their number." Should not "a committee" be substituted here for "president," and *magistri* for *magister*? On p. 311 we read:

"Finally circumstances combined to render the act of *provocatio* almost unnecessary. Customary law dictated that the magistrate should not pronounce a sentence which he knew must lead to the appeal, and consequently, when he held that the crime deserved such a sentence, he made no provisional pronouncement of his own, but went directly to the people."

The common opinion, adopted by Mommsen in his 'Strafrecht,' that *provocatio* was always preceded by a definite magisterial sentence, seems to be far more probable, and indeed appears to be accepted by Mr. Greenidge on p. 320. P. 314: It is misleading to bring the old constitutional phrase *dictator optima lege* into connexion with the dictatorship of Sulla. P. 322, n.: There is an important omission in the statement of the case of the Roman citizen who was scourged in B.C. 138. The epitome of Livy says that he was "accusatus ad tribunos." As Mommsen and others have seen, the sufferer approached the tribunes because the magistrate refused him the exercise of the right of *provocatio*, but the tribunes declined to secure to him the right. The case is doubtless typical of a large class. Constitutional rights were often of little avail at Rome to a citizen if the tribunes did not choose to protect him in the enjoyment of them. P. 328: The account given of the trial of M. Postumius Pyrgensis is not quite satisfactory. There is nothing to prove that the charge against him was, in the first instance, formulated as *perduellio*. When, in the second stage of the proceedings, it took that form (as it probably did), the prosecutors must have intended to carry the case before the assembly of the centuries, but were prevented by the flight of the culprit. A reader not quite on his guard might suppose that the tribunes are represented as claiming for the *plebs*, in the case of Postumius, the criminal authority which, in accordance with legend, they claimed in the dim ages just before and after the Decemvirate. But this is not what Mr. Greenidge means to convey.

*A Forgotten Empire.* By Robert Sewell, Madras Civil Service. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

MR. SEWELL has produced a work which well merits the encouragement accorded to it by the Government of Madras, who, by subsidizing it, "have rendered its publication possible." It is exactly the class of work on which the scanty funds at the disposal of the Government of India and the local governments for the encouragement of science, literature, and art should be spent. It abounds in facts, affords a comprehensive narrative of a forgotten but interesting chapter of Indian history, and evinces careful and conscientious study. It certainly deserved public encouragement; but we fear the readers of it will be few, though they will find much to interest them if they overcome the difficulty of the Hindu names—those great non-conductors of interest—and Mr. Sewell's inability to give literary cohesion to his materials.

The forgotten empire whose history Mr. Sewell has rescued from oblivion was far larger than Austria, and its magnificent capital is declared by a succession of European visitors in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries to have been marvellous for size and prosperity, a city with which for richness and magnificence no known Western capital could compare. "And yet in the present day," Mr. Sewell writes,

"the very existence of this kingdom is hardly remembered in India, while its once magnificent capital, planted on the extreme northern border of its dominions, and bearing the proud title of the 'City of Victory,' has entirely disappeared, save for a few scattered ruins of buildings that were once temples or palaces, and for the long lines of massive walls that constituted its defences. Even the name has died out of men's minds and memories, and the remains that mark its site are known only as the ruins lying near the little village of Hampé."

The picture is somewhat over-coloured. The ruins are not "few," but many, and cover six square miles. The temples at Vijayanagar are nearly the most imposing in India, and are perfectly Hindu in construction and decoration. The Hindu mind comes out in them in all its grace, grotesqueness, joyous beauty, purity, and obscenity. At the beginning of the fourteenth century the kings of the early Mussalman dynasties had established their rule over the whole of Northern India down to the Vindhya mountains. They had overrun the Deccan (the south), plundering and ravishing, breaking the idols and razing the temples, and threatened to carry their incursions further south beyond the Krishna; but a great and imminent danger welded together the Hindu states beyond that stream and barred their further progress. Among those states was the small principality Anagundi. Almost in a straight line with Goa, half way across the continent, flows the river Tungabhadra, which makes a wide circuit north and east till it joins the Krishna. In the middle of its course it passes through a wild rocky country, and here, on its northern bank, in the midst of lofty granite hills, was situated the town of Anagundi. A family of chiefs owning a small state in the neighbourhood fortified the broad tops of the scarped hills, and, enclosing by walls three or four lines of defences, converted them into a strong fortress having its base on the stream. The broad river, full of running water, was, as Wellington found, difficult to cross. But the town and fortress were situated on the wrong side of the stream. The year that Edward III. invaded Scotland Mohammed Taghlag of Delhi, having completed the invasion of the Deccan, advanced southwards and seized the fortress and town of Anagundi. After having attempted in vain to govern his new territory by means of a deputy, Mohammed appointed as chief and prime minister two brothers who had under the old régime held the offices of prime minister and treasurer. These were Harihara I. (Hukka) and Bukka I. In order to put the broad river between them and the Moslems the two chiefs founded in 1336, amidst the hills on the south bank, a new city, which afterwards became the capital of the Vijayanagar Empire. Legend states that the chiefs were advised to found a city on the spot by a sage



surnamed Vidyāranya, or Forest of Learning, and that it was first called the City of Science. Mr. Sewell, however, writes:—

"I think there can be little doubt that this derivation, though often given, is erroneous, and that the name was 'City of Victory,' not 'City of Learning'—Vijaya, not Vidya."

About nine years after the foundation of the new government of Vijayanagar an Afghan of the lowest rank, a native of Delhi, headed a successful revolt in the Deccan against the empire of Delhi, and formed an independent sovereignty, with Kulbarga for its capital. Out of gratitude to his Hindu patron, he took the additional title of Bahmini, by which the dynasty is known to history. The Hindu kingdoms south of the Krishna were the allies of the new dynasty in its resistance to the paramount power; but when delivered from their common enemy the old feud between Moslem and Hindu swiftly revived, as it would revive to-morrow if we retired from India. Mohammed Shah, the son of the founder of the Bahmini dynasty, was as bitter and hostile to the Hindus as his father had been indulgent and courteous. In a drunken revel he offered an insult to the King of Vijayanagar, who attacked Mudgal, an important city situated in the large triangle of country lying west of the junction of the Krishna and Tungabhadra, and put all the inhabitants, men, women, and children, to the sword. The day he heard the news of the disaster, the sultan marched southward, taking a solemn oath that till he should have put to death one hundred thousand infidels as an expiation for the massacre of the faithful he would never sheath the sword of holy war nor refrain from slaughter. He surprised the rajah's camp, "putting all to death without any distinction; and it is said that the slaughter amounted to seventy thousand men, women, and children." Mohammed crossed the Tungabhadra, and on July 23rd, 1366, the Persian historian tells us, "the armies of light and darkness met. From the dawn till four in the afternoon, like the waves of the ocean, they continued in warm conflict." The Hindu centre was broken, and the vast host fled on all sides.

"The scymeters of the faithful were not yet sheathed from slaughter when the royal umbrella appeared. The sultan gave orders to renew the massacre of the unbelievers. They were executed with such strictness that pregnant women and even children at the breast did not escape the sword."

The sultan besieged the Hindu capital, and commanded that the inhabitants of every town and hamlet near it should be massacred. The rajah attempted to make peace, but the sultan was obdurate. The ambassadors pleaded that no religion ordained that the innocent, particularly women and children, should suffer for the guilty.

"If Kishen Roy had been faulty the poor and wretched had not been partakers in his crimes. Mahummud Shah replied that the decrees of Providence had so ordered, and he had no power to alter them."

He was, however, at last persuaded to grant honourable terms, and the peace lasted for some years. Then war broke out afresh, and a perpetual conflict was maintained with the Bahmini dynasty and the five independent sovereignties which arose

on its decay. The dismemberment of the Bahmini kingdom promoted the growth and power of the Hindu empire. All the Hindu chiefs south of the Krishna came under the control of Vijayanagar, and, enriched by its maritime commerce and mineral wealth, it attained at the beginning of the sixteenth century its greatest prosperity and power. Not far from its capital were situated the principal diamond mines which are generically known as "the mines of Golconda," though no diamond was ever found at Golconda. It was merely a fortress in which the diamonds were cut. Linschoten tells us that "diamonds grow by the town of Bisnagar, wherein are two or three hills, from whence they are digged, whereof the King of Bisnagar doth reap great profitte." Garcia da Orta, who was in India in 1534, says that at Vijayanagar a diamond had been seen as large "as a small hen's egg." Fernão Nuñez, who spent three years in the kingdom, states that the diamond mines, in their day the richest in the world, were farmed out on condition that all stones above twenty-five carats were sent to the king for his personal use. To Fernão Nuñez and Domingos Paes we owe the most vivid and graphic account of the great Hindu capital at the time of its meridian grandeur and magnificence. Nuñez supplies a narrative of local and current events and a traditional history of the country gathered on the spot; Paes tells us "things which I saw and came to know." The chronicles of Paes and Nuñez are contained in a vellum-bound folio volume in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, and to the distinguished Arabic scholar Senhor Lopes must be awarded the credit of having first made known their existence. He has recently printed them in the original Portuguese ('*Crônica dos Reis de Bisnaga*'), and from his text and by his "generous help" Mr. Sewell has been able to translate them for the first time into English. Though we are not prepared to agree with Senhor Lopes that "nothing that we know of in any language can compare with them, whether for their historical importance or for the description given of the country," they are no doubt of considerable historical value and throw much light on the condition of India under its Hindu sovereigns.

Paes and Nuñez have the great merit of the old travellers, and it is this virtue which causes them to defy the power of time. They did not attempt word-painting, but by simple speech they make the reader their companion in their wanderings. They were shrewd observers, and they accurately describe the physical appearance of the land through which they pass, the customs of the people, the houses of the poor, and the palaces of the great. Paes tells us that when he approached the capital he climbed up a hill to have a view of it, but he could not see it all "because it lies between several ranges of hills":—

"What I saw from thence seemed to me as large as Rome, and very beautiful to the sight; there are many groves of trees within it, in the gardens of the houses, and many conduits of water which flow into the midst of it, and in places there are lakes; and the king has close to his palace a palm-grove and other rich-bearing trees. Below the Moorish quarter is a little river, and on this side are many orchards and gardens with many fruit trees, for

the most part mangoes and areca-palm and jack trees, and also many limes and orange trees, growing so closely one to another that it appears like a thick forest; and there are also white grapes."

The people, he goes on to state, were countless in number, "so much so that I do not wish to write it down for fear it should be thought fabulous," and it is the best provided city in the world. He describes the broad and beautiful main street, full of rows of fine houses, and "it is to be understood that the houses belong to men rich enough to afford such."

"In this street live many merchants, and there you will find all sorts of rubies, and diamonds, and emeralds, and pearls, and seed-pearls, and cloths, and every other sort of thing there is on earth, and that you may wish to buy. Then you have there every evening a fair where they sell many common horses and nags, and also many citrons, and limes, and oranges, and grapes, and every other kind of garden stuff, and wood; you have all in this street."

The narrative of Duarte Barbosa, who visited the city A.D. 1504–14, confirms the description of Paes. He speaks of it as an exceedingly large city, very populous, and the seat of an active commerce in diamonds, pearls, rubies, "also silk brocades, scarlet cloth, and coral." Paes furnishes a striking account of the temples, the houses of the ministers, and the palaces of the king. Through the courtesy of the sovereign he was shown "certain of his residences, for that of his wives no one ever sees," and Paes's description, heightened by its simplicity and naïveté, confirms the accuracy of Milton's well-known declaration respecting the "gorgeous East," which "with richest hand showers on her kings barbaric pearls and gold."

"As soon as you are inside, on the left hand, are two chambers, one above the other, which are in this manner: the lower one is below the level of the ground, with two little steps which are covered with copper gilded, and from there to the top is all lined with gold (I do not say 'gilded' but 'lined' inside), and outside it is dome-shaped. It has a four-sided porch made of cane-work, over which is a work of rubies and diamonds and all other kinds of precious stones and pearls, and above the porch are two pendants of gold; all the precious stone-work is in heart shapes, and interwoven between one another is a twist of thick seed-pearl work; on the dome are pendants of the same. In this chamber was a bed which had feet similar to the porch, the cross-bars covered with gold, and there was on it a mattress of black satin, which had all round it a railing of pearls a span wide; on it were two cushions and no other covering. Of the chamber above it I shall not say if it held anything because I did not see it, but only the one below on the right side. In this house there is a room with pillars of carved stone; this room is all of ivory, as well the chambers as the walls, from top to bottom, and the pillars of the cross-timbers at the top had roses and flowers of lotuses all of ivory, and all well executed, so that there could not be better—it is so rich and beautiful that you could hardly find anywhere another such. On this same side is designed in painting all the ways of life of the men who have been here, even down to the Portuguese, from which the king's wives can understand the manner in which each one lives in his own country, even to the blind and the beggars. In this house are two thrones covered with gold and a cot of silver with its curtains. Here I saw a little slab of green jasper which is held for a great thing in this house."



The glory of the Hindu empire was the transient glory of barbaric splendour and outward show which concealed the rottenness within. The country never knew the blessings of peace, and the army, raised and equipped with much care, numbered, it is said, six hundred thousand men and twenty-four thousand horses. They were paid, as Fernão Nuñez informs us, by the nobles. "These nobles," he writes,

"are like renters who hold all the land from the king, and besides keeping all these people they have to pay their cost; they also pay to him every year sixty lakhs of rents as royal dues. The lands, they say, yield a hundred and twenty lakhs, of which they must pay sixty to the king, and the rest they retain for the pay of the soldiers and the expenses of the elephants which they are obliged to maintain. For this reason the common people suffer much hardship, those who hold the lands being so tyrannical."

The poverty of the Indian ryot does not date, as some native writers wish us to suppose, from the advent of the English. The Maharajah of Durbunga, or any other great Bengal "renter," would strongly object to have to pay out of a revenue of 120 lakhs sixty to the British Government, and to spend the rest on the maintenance of the army. The British Government cannot vie with the Hindu sovereigns or the Moghul emperors in barbaric splendour, but it has given the natives peace, order, and security in exchange for anarchy and oppression.

The downfall of the great Hindu empire was as rapid as its rise. About the middle of the sixteenth century the reigning sovereign, Rāmā Rāya, attacked the dominions of the King of Ahmadnagar, and laid them waste. The Mohammedan historian tells us "they left no cruelty unpractised. They insulted the honour of the Mussulman women, destroyed the mosques, and did not even respect the sacred Koraun."

The ire of the followers of Islam was roused, and the Mohammedan kings, suspending their mutual jealousies, formed a confederacy against the King of Vijayanagar. On January 25th, 1565, at Talikot, a short distance from the Krishna, took place the great struggle between the Hindus and the Mohammedans for the supremacy of Southern India. The Hindus were totally defeated, and the Mohammedan historian boasts that 100,000 infidels were slain. The Hindu monarch, seventy-two years of age, was beheaded in cold blood, and

"we know that the real head, annually covered with oil and red pigment, has been exhibited to the pure Mahomedans of Ahmadnagar on the anniversary of the battle for the last two hundred and fifty years by the descendants of the executioner, in whose hands it has remained till the present period [1829]."

The capital was taken and the inhabitants slaughtered without mercy. With fire, crowbars, and axes the magnificent temples and stately palaces were destroyed. All hope of Hindu supremacy in the south had perished, but dissensions among the victors enabled the brother of the slain monarch to retain a fraction of his territory and establish his Court eventually at Chandragiri, about seventy miles south-west from Madras. Seventy years after the battle of Talikot a descendant of the

once great Hindu suzerains of Vijayanagar granted to Mr. Francis Day, chief factor of the English, the site on which stands Fort St. George at Madras.

The rise and fall of the great Hindu empire is a tale of considerable interest, but Mr. Sewell has to learn the art of construction. The illustrations are good, and the publishers deserve special praise for the way they have produced the book.

*A Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames, with Special American Instances.* By the late Charles Wareing Bardsley. Revised for the Press by his Widow. (Frowde.)

THIS substantial volume—it contains 800 pages, in three columns, besides the introduction—is a contribution of extraordinary value to the study of family names. At the same time it must be admitted that its faults are many and serious. Excellent as it was in some respects, Canon Bardsley's well-known work 'English Surnames, their Sources and Significations,' showed that he lacked several important qualifications for the investigation of the subject; and in his posthumous book the dictionary form renders his deficiencies all the more conspicuous. It is evident that he knew little or nothing of Old English, Old French, or Welsh, that he had not scientifically studied the Germanic system of personal names, and that his notions of the laws of sound-change were extremely vague. There is hardly a page in the book which does not contain proof of the writer's imperfect knowledge of things with which a well-equipped student of the etymology of English surnames ought to be thoroughly familiar. And yet we believe that a criticism which dealt only with the defects of the work would be further from the truth than one which ignored them altogether. The enormous mass of documentary material which this 'Dictionary' contains would render it highly valuable to students, even if the conclusions deduced from this material had been in all cases unsound. And Canon Bardsley was much more than merely an industrious compiler. His prolonged and laborious study of the subject had secured him a perhaps unrivalled command of the analogies of signification in English surnames; and he had the combination of acuteness and sobriety of judgment which in investigations of this kind is often more important than linguistic scholarship. Accordingly, while many of his etymological conjectures are inadmissible, a very considerable proportion of them are either certainly or probably correct.

It should not be forgotten that the book as published has not enjoyed the advantage of the author's final revision. We see no reason for doubting that the preparation for the press (which we learn from the preface has cost Mrs. Bardsley two years of labour) has been on the whole as efficiently performed as it could have been by any person not actually possessing an expert knowledge of the subject. But of course the editor of a posthumous work cannot assume the same liberty in dealing with it as would have been exercised by the author himself, and there seems to be little doubt that if Canon Bardsley had lived to revise the book he would have corrected many of the errors

and would have removed some obvious faults of method. Rather frequently, for instance, when two variants of a surname are treated separately in their alphabetical places, the illustrative material is arbitrarily divided between the two articles, and the desirable cross-reference is sometimes not given in the earlier of the places. In certain instances there are references to articles that are not to be found; e.g., Cladish is said to be "a variant of Gladdish, q.v.," and under Fullalove there is a reference to Smallwriter (as a parallel instance of translation from French). It is, however, much more difficult to avoid faults of this kind than most people would think; if an original work of reference is quite free from them, one may safely guess that the printer's bill for corrections was heavy.

The number of articles contained in the 'Dictionary' seems to be about ten thousand, but the names interpreted cannot be far short of twice as many, because very often one article deals with a whole group of names regarded by the author as etymologically identical. There are, by the way, several articles which we think would have been better omitted. It is misleading, for instance, to insert "Kerchiefwasher," "Drinkdregs," and "Soapers' lane" in a dictionary of surnames on the ground that an "Isabella Kierchiefwasher," a "Geoffrey Dringkedregges," and a "Thomas de Sopereslane" are mentioned in early documents. Individual designations of this kind are not surnames until they have become hereditary. It might have been worth while to give a list of them in an appendix, but in the body of the work they are out of place. When these superfluities are left out of account, and the articles (by no means superfluous) dealing with obsolete surnames, the number of modern surnames which Canon Bardsley has attempted to explain is astonishingly large, especially when it is remembered that names of Irish and Scotch origin, and modern importations from foreign countries, are on principle excluded. Very few surnames that are in common use seem to have been overlooked, while many that are rare have been included. Among the omitted surnames are the following, which we mention because their etymological obscurity has excited our curiosity: Argument, Bultitude, Duppa, Dust, Fudge, Headache, Mallender, Muspratt, Stuckey, Trampleasure, and Witterterly. It seems strange to miss such famous names as Mauleverer, Vernon, Tyrwhitt, and Shelley; but in a work left unfinished by its author the wonder is that there are not many more deficiencies of this conspicuous kind.

Canon Bardsley is at his best in treating of the many surnames derived from names of places. He has most properly abstained as a rule from attempting to explain the etymology of place-names, but has endeavoured to discover one or more places called by each name that has given rise to a surname. Very often this is in the nature of the case impossible. Every one who has had occasion to study early English documents knows that hundreds of place-names have either gone out of use, or are preserved only as the appellations of single houses or uninhabited spots which naturally are not to be found in gazetteers or on

county maps. And even when a surname coincides with the name of a known place, it is often uncertain whether the family originated from that place or from some unknown place that once bore the same name. Still the author has been successful in finding a probable place of origin for the majority of the surnames of local derivation which he discusses, and very often his extracts from early registers afford strong evidence that the name has been traced to its real source. In a few instances, however, an obvious identification has been missed; e.g., Maplethorpe, "some small spot in co. Lincoln that I cannot find," is the well-known Mablethorpe in the county named.

The articles on surnames presumed to come from Christian names, designations of trades, and descriptive nicknames are frequently unsatisfactory, owing to the imperfection of the author's philological knowledge. Apparently Canon Bardsley knew Old English names only in the often ambiguous forms in which they appear in post-Conquest documents. When a reader finds such strange statements as that Aldwin is "Aylwin, with intrusive *d*," that Aldith is "an early form of Edith," or that Quenild is "the Norman form of Gunnilda," he feels convinced that he need not expect any proper treatment of the interesting class of surnames which represent survivals of pre-Conquest nomenclature. Quite frequently imaginary personal names are invented in order to account for surnames. Waddilove, for instance, is said to be from Wadelief, "one of several names ending in *-lief*, dear." No such name existed, and if it had existed it would not explain the surname, which in Canon Bardsley's two thirteenth-century examples appears in the form *Wadeinlove*—apparently a nickname, though its precise import is not clear. The surnames from Biblical and Romanic names are mostly better explained, though under 'Addyman' *Ad* is quoted as "a nickname for Adam," from a document in which it is simply the usual mediæval Latin genitive. Several of the Welsh surnames are incorrectly or incompletely treated. Lloyd is said to be from a baptismal name; it is really the adjective *lloyd*, grey, used descriptively, like its English synonym. When the reader turns to the names derived from occupations, he will be struck by the ignorance of historical phonetics shown in the statement that Corker, recorded in that form from the beginning of the sixteenth century, is equivalent to *calker*. The rare surname Harker is referred to the Middle-English *ancore*, anchorite, and documents of 1273 are cited which mention a Thomas le Hanekere and an Adam Hanekare. But (not to speak of any other objection) *hanekare* is not a possible thirteenth-century spelling of *ancore*, even in documents which prefix the letter *h* to initial vowels at random. We suspect that the true reading is *Haukare*, hawk, i.e., one who has to do with hawks. Canon Bardsley has in several other places been misled by editors who have blundered over the *u*'s and *n*'s of their MSS. The surname Hawker, we observe, is explained to mean "one who hawks goods for sale." In some instances this may be correct, but the word *hawker* in this sense has not been found earlier than the sixteenth century,

and the designation "*le Haukere*" of Canon Bardsley's examples must have meant "a keeper of hawks."

It would be easy enough to fill several columns with criticisms of this kind, but no scholar will care to dwell on the defects of a work which possesses great positive merit. It is, however, highly necessary to warn the reader against accepting without scrutiny Canon Bardsley's often hazardous identifications of modern surnames with early surnames or *cognomina* of similar spelling, and to point out that he often brackets together as "variants" names which there is good reason for considering independent in origin. Ballinger and Pullinger, for example, are treated as corruptions of Bullinger, which is identified with the thirteenth-century "*le Bulenger*," the baker. The two former names, however, admit of plausible explanation as they stand, and it is not quite certain that Bullinger as a modern surname is not an importation from Germany.

We gladly turn from the consideration of the weak points of the book to mention some of the interesting and apparently well-authenticated results which it contains. Canon Bardsley's selection of documentary forms seems to leave no doubt that Bullivant is a corruption of *bon-enfant*, equivalent to the English Goodchild. Whether an inference may be drawn from this as to the signification of the rare surname Maliphant (which Canon Bardsley does not mention) we do not venture to say; at any rate, Evilchild occurs as a cognomen in the thirteenth century. The Welsh name Einion is with some probability assigned as the source of the surnames Eynon, Enion, Anyon, Inions, and Onions; while the patronymic Ab-Einion accounts for Beynon, Benyon, Binyon, and Bunyan. Pottiphar has nothing to do with the book of Genesis, but, together with Puddifer, Petiver, and other variants, represents the Anglo-French nickname *Pedefer*, "iron-foot." The analogous *Brasdefer*, "iron-arm," somewhat common in early records, has not survived as a surname, but its reversed equivalent *Fierabras*, which became famous in romance, is represented by Firebrace, Fairbrass, and Farbrace. There seems to be a good case for the contention that the Norfolk surname Bloomfield is a corruption of Blundeville, though the Bloomfields in other parts of the country probably originated from one or more of the villages of this name. Physick is plausibly conjectured to be a corruption of the local surname Fishwick, an intermediate form Fishick being recorded in a register of 1620.

We might refer to many more points of this kind, but these interesting curiosities have not much to do with the real merit of the book. Even when all allowance is made for the help derived from the researches of Mr. Lower and others, Canon Bardsley's work is certainly no ordinary achievement. It is a pity that he had not the little more of knowledge that would have made such an incalculable difference; but, with all its faults, this 'Dictionary' will be found wonderfully helpful to those students of the subject who have scholarship enough to use it critically.

## NEW NOVELS.

*The Skipper of Barnraig.* By Gabriel Setoun. (Constable & Co.)

THE interest of this story of Scottish humble life, which it were a sin to classify as of the "kailyard," does not altogether centre in the manly seaman who dies as nearly of a broken heart as a man can die. The chief figure is rather the nervous artistic son, whose aversion to the calling of his fathers, and inevitable bent to music and poetry, lead him so far from the hereditary paths, and incidentally spread ruin, dismay, and death among the nearest of his kinsfolk and acquaintance. The author has before now shown some insight into the strong types prevailing in Eastern Scotland. The people of Barnraig are "folk of life," but fisher-folk less touched by modern changes than are the landward people of the "kingdom." "Phloss" Burt and Ailie Moultrie, one the student of Carlyle and Locke, the other the embodiment of local and proverbial philosophy, shine brightest in the village coterie, which may be credited with more gnomie and humorous wisdom than we have for some time had the pleasure of recognizing. The tragedy of the lost artist is farfetched, but given the environment, his fate may, perhaps, be accepted as credible.

*Sister Carrie.* By Theodore Dreiser. (Heinemann.)

THIS is the sixth of the volumes that have appeared in Mr. Heinemann's "Dollar Library"; and it is the most important. Says the publisher in his advertisement to readers:—

"Inspired possibly at first by several exceptional men who stood on the threshold of this new literary development [distinctively American fiction], there is now growing up a school of writers of talent to whom respect cannot be denied and whom we can no longer afford to ignore in England."

If Mr. Heinemann has in hand many novels of the solid merit and genuine documentary value that distinguish 'Sister Carrie' his "Dollar Library" deserves success, and his rather poorly composed advertisement is more than justified.

"When a girl leaves her home at eighteen, she does one of two things. Either she falls into saving hands and becomes better, or she rapidly assumes the cosmopolitan standard of virtue and becomes worse."

Thus the author of 'Sister Carrie' on his first page. The book disproves his axiom, for Carrie, whilst avoiding saving hands, and assuming the cosmopolitan standard of virtue with great readiness, does not become noticeably worse:—

"Self-interest with her was high, but not strong. It was nevertheless her guiding characteristic. Warm with the fancies of youth, pretty with the insipid prettiness of the formative period, possessed of a figure promising eventual shapeliness and an eye alight with certain native intelligence, she was a fair example of the middle American class two generations removed from the emigrant.... A half-equipped little knight she was, venturing to reconnoitre the mysterious city, and dreaming wild dreams of some vague far-off supremacy which should make it prey and subject—the proper penitent grovelling at a woman's slipper."

This passage is better written than most

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of the book, throughout which the phrasing is of the streets and the bars—colloquial, familiar, vivid, slangy, unlovely, but intensely real. Of the manner of the book it is not easy to speak favourably; it is strikingly unworthy of the matter thereof. Whilst large, dignified, and generous, the scheme of the story here told is not pretentious, or complex, or ambitious. It is a very plain tale of a plain though eventful life. Between its covers no single note of unreality is struck. It is untrammelled by any single concession to convention or tradition, literary or social. It is as compact of actuality as a police-court record, and throughout its pages one feels pulsing the sturdy, restless energy of a young people, a cosmopolitan community, a nation busy upon the hither side of maturity. The book is, firstly, the full, exhaustive story of the "half-equipped little knight's" life and adventures; secondly, it is a broad, vivid picture of men and manners in middle-class New York and Chicago; and, thirdly, it is a thorough and really masterly study of the moral, physical, and social deterioration of one Hurstwood, a lover of the heroine. Upon all these counts it is a creditable piece of work, faithful and rich in the interest which pertains to genuinely realistic fiction. It is further of interest by reason that it strikes a key-note and is typical, both in the faults of its manner and in the wealth and diversity of its matter, of the great country which gave it birth. Readers there are who, having perused the three hundred and odd pages which go to the making of 'Sister Carrie,' will find permanent place upon their shelves for the book beside M. Zola's 'Nana.'

*Sir Hector.* By Robert Machray. (Constable & Co.)

SIR HECTOR, whose story concerns the period of the Jacobite insurrection of 1745, although, with commendable originality, Mr. Machray confines himself to the effects of the struggle on the English side, is represented as the legitimate son of that Marquis of Tullibardine who forfeited his honours to his Hanoverian brother. The adventures of Hector, who goes to seek his fortunes in London and adheres to the party principles in which his Presbyterian mother has brought him up, form a readable story of incident. The ride to Derby, where Hector discovers the impending retreat of the Chevalier, and thereby makes the fortune of a celebrated London banking house, is the most stirring of several adventures. A sufficient love story affords continuity to these scenes. The author has scored a success.

*Eastover Court House.* By Henry Burnham Boone and Kenneth Brown. (Harper & Brothers.)

A STORY of Virginia brings with it the inevitable negro, the American novelist's bane. The loquacious negro of American fiction appears to have spent his youth in reading the comic papers and to possess a retentive memory. Whatever is put into his mouth passes for humour. He rushes on to the stage like the clown at a pantomime, confident that he will set the house in a roar. To English readers, however,

he proves tiresome. 'Eastover Court House' opens with negro talk, and makes a depressing start; but the authors have used some self-restraint. The reader who perseveres may on the whole be fairly rewarded. The book contains what seems to be a brief picture of life in Virginia at the present day. It has something of the character of the Irish life depicted by Lever without the fun. English readers can hardly peruse the accounts of the treatment of the negroes without disgust. The love story to which the publishers' puff calls attention seems a rather spiritless affair. The horsey parts of the story are told with far more zest.

#### THE LITERATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

*Bible Studies: Contributions, chiefly from Papyri and Inscriptions, to the History of the Language, the Literature, and the Religion of Hellenistic Judaism and Primitive Christianity.* By Dr. G. Adolf Deissmann. Authorized Translation, incorporating Dr. Deissmann's most recent Changes and Additions, by Alexander Grieve. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.)—Prof. Deissmann has obtained deserved distinction by the energy and perseverance which he has devoted to the study of the Greek of the Septuagint and the New Testament, and especially by the effort he has made to throw light on this subject from inscriptions and papyri. He has published several articles and dissertations relating to that matter, but his two best-known works are his 'Bibelstudien' (1895) and his 'Neue Bibelstudien' (1897). These are the books which Mr. Grieve has translated; yet on a careful perusal of these works in the English version we have doubts whether they were worth translating. They consist for the most part of notes on words or names, which are of a temporary or provisional character, as they do not furnish a complete survey of the sources from which information can be drawn, and they almost never come to definite conclusions. A large number of these notes are directed against a fantastic idea which Prof. Deissmann supposes to exist in some German minds, but it may be questioned whether such an idea has, now at least, any hold on Biblical scholars. The idea is that Biblical Greek is something quite distinct from other Greek, and a product to a large extent of inspiration. And Prof. Deissmann maintains against this, in an elaborate article and in many notes, that "the early Christian writings, in fact, must be taken out of the narrow and not easily illuminated cells of the canon, and placed in the sunshine and under the blue sky of their native land and of their own time." In several of the notes he takes the Biblical words out of the narrow cells of the canon by proving that they are found in inscriptions and in papyri, and some of these contain nothing but a notification of the places in which the words are found. "The articles which follow," he says, "should make it clear that the non-occurrence in extra-Biblical literature of many Biblical words is a matter solely of statistical contingency." Everywhere the book bears evidence of the hurry with which Prof. Deissmann has rushed into print. He seems to have got his facts in regard to the Greek of the Bible from grammars and dictionaries. Then he came upon the idea of looking into papyri and inscriptions. And it was only at a later period that he discovered that others had used inscriptions and papyri for the same purpose long before him. Thus he confesses:—

"When the author (in 1894) wrote the above, he was unaware that E. L. Hicks, in the *Classical Review*, 1887, had already begun to apply the inscriptions to the explanation of the N. T."

Similar confessions are strewn throughout the book. And some of his notes are conspicuous by the ignorance which he shows of what others

have done. Thus on ἐπίσκοπος he says, "Of this word as an official title Cremer, following Pape, gives only one example outside the N. T." Then he quotes two or three inscriptions in which ἐπίσκοπος occurs. He does not notice the fact that Hatch refers to a much larger number of inscriptions, and that nearly every writer since Hatch's time on the origin and functions of episcopacy has appealed to inscriptions. Prof. Deissmann's work includes several dissertations, all of them interesting and inconclusive. The longest of them was near the end of 'Bibelstudien,' but the translator has placed it first in his form of the book. It is styled 'Prolegomena to the Biblical Letters and Epistles,' and is a curious production. From it we learn that the author

"previous to his acquaintance with ancient papyrus letters (such as it was—only in facsimiles) had never rightly known, or at least never rightly realized within his own mind, what a letter was."

It is amusing to find him referring to authorities in his explanation of what a letter is:—

"The letter in its essential idea does not differ in any way from a private conversation.....The only difference is the means of communication. We avail ourselves of far-travelling handwriting, because our voice cannot carry to our friend: the pen is employed because the separation by distance does not permit a tête-à-tête."

One would imagine that such a statement would require no confirmation, but be left to the judgment of the reader. But Prof. Deissmann must air his newly acquired learning, and so he refers in proof of the remark to

"[Pseudo-] Diogenes, ep. 3 (*Epistolographi Græci*, rec. R. Hercher, *Paris*, 1873, p. 235); Demetrius, *de elocut.* 223 f. (Hercher, p. 13); [Pseudo-] Proclus, *de forma epistolari* (Hercher, p. 6)."

Throughout the dissertation Prof. Deissmann assumes the tone of a superior person. He thus speaks of the public: "Should one desire to address not the assembled class or congregation, but the great foolish public..." He abounds in strange contrasts. Thus he says: "Whether the author sends forth poems, tragedies, or histories, sermons or wearisome scientific lucubrations..." One would have expected the "wearisome" to go before the sermons. Again, it is difficult to see why he is so severe on the modern compositor as in the following words: "whether his book is multiplied by the slaves of an Alexandrian bookseller, by patient monk or impatient compositor." Possibly he thinks all these things very clever. Indeed, he claims to be a wit. Here are two specimens of his attempts in this direction:—

"Even the grapes of Zeuxis could deceive only the sparrows; one even suspects that they were no true sparrows, but cage birds rather, which had lost their real nature along with their freedom and pertness; our Rhine-land sparrows would not have left their vineyards for anything of the kind."

"It is a characteristic circumstance that the writer of the epistle at the end of the Apocalypse of Baruch sends his booklet to the receivers by an eagle. Paul uses men as his messengers: he would not have entrusted a letter to eagles—they fly too high."

After reading through the whole dissertation we are doubtful whether Prof. Deissmann has yet reached an accurate idea of what he calls a real letter, and certainly his discussion of it does not contribute in any degree to the settlement of Biblical questions. Still he writes in a lively manner, is diligent in investigation, has an open mind and great love of truth, and possesses a sound knowledge of some of the recent works on the subject which he expounds. The translation is fairly well done, but Mr. Grieve is apt to adhere too closely to the German. Thus he has such expressions as the "canonisation" of a book and "mechanise." Sometimes he goes slightly wrong in his rendering, as when he translates "zurück erhalten" by "withhold," when the context requires "receive back." Occasionally he is inconsistent in names, writing at one time Pergamos, at another Pergamon; and Pausanias occurs—probably a printer's error. But on the



whole the translation is accurate, the Greek is printed with great care, and the errors of any kind are few.

We noticed lately Dr. Abbott's 'Diatessarica,' part i., as he now calls his earlier volume, 'Clue: a Guide through Greek to Hebrew Scripture.' His 'Diatessarica,' part ii., has followed quickly. It bears the title *The Corrections of Mark* (Black). St. Mark, the writer holds, translated into Greek from a Hebrew work now lost. In doing so he made many mistakes, and an early editor of his work noted these on the margin of the book, giving the correct rendering of the Hebrew original. St. Matthew and St. Luke were aware of these "corrections of Mark," and adopted them; this is the explanation of the numerous instances in which the first and third Evangelists agree together against the second. This theory, like many a predecessor, postulates editions which disappeared almost immediately after they were produced. It cannot be said that the present volume makes this theory appear more likely than the first did. It consists of discussions of the passages in question, in which it is shown what the original Hebrew may have been which St. Mark mistranslated, how similar misunderstandings occur in the Septuagint, and how St. Matthew and St. Luke—or sometimes only one of them—correct the error. The work thus done is of a thankless nature; only the Hebrew scholar can judge of what is set forth; the ordinary reader of the New Testament acquainted with Greek is filled, as he turns over these pages, with a sense of insecurity and bewilderment. No doubt the work Dr. Abbott essays to do is one which must be done. The Gospel record must be carried back into the language in which it first arose. Dr. Abbott says that language was Hebrew, a view in which he stands almost alone, for most of the scholars who address themselves to the problem of the Semitic source at the back of the Greek Gospels think of Aramaic. Only when the work is complete, or at least some part of it, will it be possible to judge of its success; critics no doubt, like children, should not judge of half-finished work. It is to be hoped that all the labour and perseverance and learning that have gone to the attempt—and they are great—will not prove to have been spent in vain.

*The General Epistle of St. James.* Explained by H. W. Fulford. "The Churchman's Bible." (Methuen & Co.)—The object of the series of expositions in which this dainty little volume appears is "to be of service to the general reader in the practical and devotional study of Holy Scripture." Though taking account of the results of critical research, they aim chiefly at applying the permanent truths and principles of Scripture to present-day life on its spiritual, moral, and social sides. The reader who approaches Scripture with these requirements may find this volume will supply them as well as could be expected in connexion with the Epistle of St. James. He is asked to believe, according to the traditional view, that the writer of the Epistle was the son of Joseph, but not of Mary, an older step-brother, therefore, of our Lord; that he wrote to the Jews of the Dispersion, specially to those of them who believed in Christ; and that he did so about 49 A.D., before the Pauline Epistles were composed, to which most scholars now take it to refer. Other views of the date and destination are known to Mr. Fulford, but little attention is paid to them. Various readings and other translations are supplied, and there is a good knowledge of the conflicting interpretations of passages. The Epistle is made perhaps as interesting as the historical theory of it which Mr. Fulford has adopted admits.

## SCOTTISH HISTORY.

*Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland.* Edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, F.S.A., Lord Lyon King of Arms.—Vol. III. A.D. 1506-1507. (Edinburgh, H.M. General Register House.)—In the production of this volume Sir James B. Paul has shown commendable punctuality, and we may now rest assured that this interesting series of Scottish Treasury Accounts will be carried on uninterruptedly to the end. The period here covered is indeed small, little more than two years and a half—February 11th, 1505, to September 6th, 1507; the printer and binder, therefore, should not have been allowed to belittle it still further by placing on the title-page and cover the date "1506-1507," especially as the preceding volume was dated "1500-1504." Although there are no occurrences of outstanding importance within these years, the gradual accumulation of materials for the domestic history of both Court and people becomes of the utmost value. The king's restless wanderings from place to place carry the interest of the reader over a large part of Scotland. The king buys almost everything from men-of-war to golf balls. The latter cost him 4d. each, a comparatively high price, for he pays only 2s. for a couple of clubs. The great Court event of the last volume was the king's marriage with the Princess Margaret of England; the event of the present volume is the tournament of "the wild knight and the black lady" in 1507. The Lyon King is at his best editorially in all that regards the pageantry and show, the royal wardrobe and costumes, and he is properly shocked at the "well-nigh incredible" eccentricity of the king, himself "the very pattern and Paladin of chivalry," in setting up a full-blooded negress, "if not exactly as the Queen of Beauty, at least as the one whose excellencies were to be defended at the sword's point." The editor, too, can scarcely conceal his disapproval of another of the oddities of James IV., his dressing a Court fool in a doctor's gown and hood. There is abundant information on the salaries of Court officials from the highest to the lowest, the cost of their liveries or the garments provided for many of them, and the fees bestowed on chaplains, musicians, players and dancers, &c. In the case of the English attendants upon the queen their salaries are reckoned in English money as well as Scots, whereby we learn that at this date the English pound was the equivalent of 3l. 10s. Scots. The king is devoted to the services of his Church, is continually making small gifts to the clergy, and seems particularly fond of hearing the first mass of a newly ordained priest. These references to the old Church customs will become the more interesting as we approach nearer to the time of the Reformation. The absence of any dealings with the book trade is still remarkable, and the more so seeing that, as Sir James observes, "it was during the currency of these Accounts, on 15 Sept., 1507, that William Chepman and Andrew Myllar received a patent licensing them to print 'the bukis of our Lawis, Acts of Parliament, cronicles, mass bukis, and portouns eftir the use of our Realme with additionis and legendis of Scottis sanctis now gaderit to be eikit thereto and all utheris bukis that sall be sene necessar, and to sell the same for competent price.'"

Chepman makes his appearance more than once as Keeper of the Signet, but never as printer or seller of books. The preface, which furnishes an excellent analysis of the contents of the volume, is well written; and the useful glossary, with which much pains have been taken, explains the meaning of many words, especially of dress and ornament, not to be found in Jamieson's 'Dictionary.' If the critic is expected to find at least one fault, he may point to the impossible name given in preface and index to Antonius, the Papal envoy, "de Militatus." It should be "de Initiatus."

*Papers illustrating the History of the Scots Brigade in the Service of the United Netherlands, 1572-1782.*—Vol. III. (1) *The Rotterdam Papers*; (2) *The Remembrance: a Metrical Account of the War in Flanders, 1701-12*, Edited by James Ferguson. (Edinburgh, Scottish History Society.)—The first two volumes of the papers relating to the Scots Brigade contained documents of an official character preserved in the national archives of the Hague; and these completed the history of the Brigade to the year 1782. The first part of the third volume contains supplementary papers preserved at Rotterdam, mainly registers of births and marriages kept by the chaplains of the several regiments from 1709 to 1782. These registers will be obviously of great value to genealogists, and they are, moreover, interesting as showing the frequent intermarriages between the Scots, both officers and men, and the Dutch. But in all these records from the Dutch War Office or elsewhere there is little to give life to the dry bones of official papers and statistics. There is no story of battles or sieges, or of personal prowess in the field, except indeed what is told in the excellent introductions by the editor. By a happy chance, however, this human element is supplied in a unique fashion by one John Scot, a native of Ayrshire, who enlisted in Lord Portmore's regiment in 1701, and for eleven years kept what may be described as a diary in verse of the Marlborough campaign. The full title of this very curious narrative, which runs to about 12,500 lines, is:—

"The Remembrance, or the progress of a Regiment commanded by my Lord Portmore in the year 1701 and 1702, which fell to be my Lord Dalrimples in the year 1703 and 1704, and which was Cornal Borthwick's from the end of the year 1706 till the Batel of Ramelies, and from the Batel of Ramelies fell then to be Cornal Heyburns regiment in the years 1706 and the years [1707, 1708], and Brigadiere Douglass Regiment in the years [1709-1711], giving a true account of all their deeds and quartering the space of the [eleven] years, with a short and true description of the operating by the English and Hollanders against the French armie, and of all the towns in Lukeland and Flanders which have been taken from the French in the present War, heir in the Lou Countrie and Flanders: By John Scot, Souldier."

The original manuscript was for a long time in the possession of the Boswells of Auchinleck, and at the sale of the Auchinleck library it passed into the hands of the author's namesake, Mr. John Scott of Halkhill, who, with characteristic generosity in all that concerns Scottish texts, placed it at the disposal of Mr. Ferguson as an appropriate supplement to the history of the Brigade. We are nowadays familiar enough with "letters from the front," but a narrative in this style and to this extent, from the pen of a soldier fighting in the ranks under Marlborough, is indeed a novelty, and the Scottish History Society is to be congratulated on its publication. We have here descriptions of marches and sieges, of casualties and hardships, of feasting and rioting, of local customs and pageants, all in a jingle of rhymes without poetry, running thus:—

But after midday, as our generals they  
Were set at the table to dine  
They received a reporte, in a haste scr't  
That the French advanced in line.

The siege of Lille alone occupies more than fifty pages of print; and the military antiquary and philologist will meet with all manner of obsolete implements of war and soldiers' slang, half Scots, half Flemish: "the cat," "the swans feathers," "sielder houses," "the musskie and her grandmother," &c. The great Marlborough himself occasionally appears on the stage:—

And still Lile cat before the breach sat  
Which many a man did fear  
For at her tail they durst not assaillle,  
On her top they durst not appear.  
So our generals their counsells did cone,  
Which way that thing should be done.

For five thousand men might be hurt or slain  
 But the cat could not be tame soon.  
 The General Malibrie he made this reply,  
 Since cats see best in the night,  
 We will now assay with her for to play  
 In the forenoon with the day light.

The cat was eventually taken, mainly through the bravery of Capt. Mackay, who was badly wounded. The writer supplies a terrible account of the slaughter at Malplaquet, where "the trees of the wood was guiled with blood"; and a striking example of the punishment inflicted on a spy or traitor, who "between two fires was tossed and roasted" for attempting to blow up a magazine at Lille when in possession of the allies. The narrator was a prisoner for several months, but he does not appear to have been wounded. Before his story is half told he reflects that "of batels and blood there cometh no good," and adds:—

I heartily wish that God would send peace  
 Although that I should be contente  
 In my own countrie to go there and die,  
 Or live on a sober rent.

The identification of local and personal names or the explanation of obsolete words is sometimes difficult, owing to the author's peculiar spelling, but the editor has in most cases supplied interpretations or suggestions in the margin. But in the line "In each carcass was a curm" (p. 434) does *curm* mean *few*? and on p. 518 *lumppe* surely stands for *limp*, not "stride quickly."

# SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

*Sea and Coast Fishing.* By F. G. Aflalo. (Grant Richards.)—Mr. J. C. Wilcocks's book on sea fishing has hitherto been the chief authority on the art. Experience, however, has hit out fresh modes of baiting, more suitable rods, tackle better adapted to the sullen tactics of large sea fish when once struck. Above all, a hand-book was needed such as a man might thrust into his bag when starting for a few days' rest and amusement at the seaside. This one contains a variety of hints founded on facts which will enable the fisherman, however inexperienced he may be, to stay aside the legendary principles which most marine boatmen uphold as being the trusty secrets of their craft. Perhaps Mr. Aflalo hardly insists enough upon the advantages of using fine instead of coarse lines (a practice which will at once bring a sea fisherman into collision with the traditional lore of the boatmen), but bearing this in mind, and drawing vigorously upon the author's experience, such an angler can scarcely fail in suitable weather to bring home a large weight of sea fish. The style of the volume, indeed, can hardly be admired. Perhaps a sea fisherman is supposed to neglect the general appearance of a book, and then he will not mind the small margins and rough illustrations which prevent others from deeming it altogether a vision of beauty. The author frankly confesses that he solely has in view in this book the needs of sea fishers. So long as he can provide them with trustworthy tackle and make fruitful suggestions as to when and how to fish, he is satisfied. The plain body of information here given to marine anglers will naturally be succeeded by the *édition de luxe*, with its emblematic binding, wide margins, thick paper, and artistic plates. In the meantime, let us be thankful for these pages, which are full of practical insight. Mr. Aflalo does full justice to the capriciousness of bass in taking a bait. They are said to afford as magnificent sport as a salmon, which ought to be matter of much gratitude to many, seeing how expensive salmon-fishing has now become. But this recommendation signifies little if they will not take a fly; and the present writer has dropped large salmon flies over and over again into their very jaws on the south coast of Devon without their caring so much as to look at these captivating lures. Still they are not so worthless from a sea angler's point of view as the grey mullet. Similarly we have tried all manner

of seductions upon them at Dartmouth and elsewhere in the west of England with no effect. Our author writes very fully and carefully on their idiosyncrasies. If a man after studying this book cannot catch bass or grey mullet, not many others will succeed. Mr. Aflalo pours contempt upon the gurnard, both on the hook and at the breakfast-table. *De gustibus*, &c.; but most men will think the gurnard hardly used in being pronounced as "showing little fight unless very large," and "being only eatable when baked with herbs." Let our author fish for them off Flamborough Head, and he may see reason to moderate his views. The dory he rightly pronounces mostly caught by chance and not design, "so far as the operations of at any rate the amateur are concerned." But it possesses a large amount of curiosity, and a large one was discernible on a summer evening coming slowly from the depths to survey the writer as he lazily intermitted his fishing. Up it came to the bows of the boat without the least fear, and was forthwith gaffed before it discovered its fatal mistake. Every now and then we learn a singular fact from Mr. Aflalo. For instance, the Turkish fisherman not only polishes his leaden plummet near his bait every half hour, but also polishes his gut line by rubbing it at intervals through tissue paper, so as to keep it bright as well. "Here then," he adds,

"have we been all these ages staining our gut with coffee and other preparations to make it dull in the water, and the unobtrusive Oriental knowing all the while that bright gut attracts rather than repels the fishes!"

A great advantage of the book is that it contains a list of "some good fishing grounds at different seaside places on our south and south-east coasts, with an indication of the fish taken on each." This ought to be more complete in the next edition. Mr. Aflalo is well acquainted with the crafty character of boatmen at the seaside, and gives useful hints on their traits to novices. It always was so:—

Si credimus Armillato,  
 Quidquid conspicuum pulchrumque in aequore toto,  
 Res fisci est.

Money is to be made on everything that swims. And again the satirist adds of the amusing fictions that boatmen tell their customers:—

Non dubitatur fugitivum dicere piscem  
 Depastumque diu vivaria Casaris.

If fish are too cunning to suffer themselves to be caught by Mr. Aflalo's methods, it will be seen that it is abundantly possible to extract interest from his pages in other respects. To turn for a moment to the author's book, he arranges his remarks under the heads of the fish ordinarily taken by the sea angler, and then points out the best tackle and baits for each kind. 'How to Fish' is a very good chapter, one deserving to be perused and borne in mind by every salt-water fisherman. 'When to Fish' and 'Where to Fish' complete the book. It should be stated, too, that the newest forms of hooks and tackle generally will be found, not only described but also figured, here. "No favouritism," adds the author, "has been shown in this. Each maker was invited to send anything novel; I used my own judgment; the tackles were drawn and returned to their owners."

So useful will these pages prove that Mr. Aflalo must be forgiven a somewhat inflated style of writing and here and there no slight traces of affectation. Fishermen may object that they only need lucid explanations and the outcome of another's experience. Others, however, think it possible to possess good taste as well, which, with an absence of slang, would undoubtedly procure more vitality for the book in the sea fisher's study. For the rest, let the novice use neatly made and not too coarse lines and tackle, instead of the knotted, antiquated twine tackle generally to be found in the ordinary fishing boat, and he will certainly reap the advantage of this hint.

*Amateur Fish Culture.* By C. E. Walker. (Constable & Co.)—Nearly half a century has elapsed since the report of the British Association called general attention to the method of fish culture pursued at Stormontfield, near Perth. The science has now become much more popular and the art more effective. Numerous books on it, too, have been put forth by Sir S. Wilson, Stoddart, Francis, and others, who were largely incited by the experiments of Quatrefages. Fish culture may now be included in what an old writer calls "country contentments," for any one who possesses a continuous stream of pure water, and a few trays and vessels, and will bestow care and patience, may hatch out eyed ova and successfully restock the neighbouring waters. Mr. Walker supposes that these ova are purchased of some fish-breeding establishment, and then proceeds to give minute details of the excessive care and punctual attention with which their early days must be watched. The process brings abundant pleasure. It is much to see the small creatures increasing day by day and coming with greater confidence to be fed; it is more to reflect on the economical advantages just conferred on the district, and the many blessings which grateful anglers will heap upon their benefactors, the fish-culturists. Mr. Walker mainly treats of the hatching out and tending of game fish, though without neglecting the culture of coarse fish as well. But he rightly thinks that few will care to make additions to Nature's supply of these latter fish save in special circumstances, whereas trout and their congeners may be reared successfully in many a neglected stream or even pond at present scarcely dreamt of by their owners as possessing such valuable properties. Special watchfulness is demanded when the fish are small. As many enemies as Virgil attributes to bees haunt the alevins. The larvæ of water-beetles rend them; kingfishers cunningly enter the nets which protect them, and devour the stock greedily; herons are even more to be feared in a lonely district. Their own kind are cannibals. Out of a consignment of some 250 which the writer once placed in a brook without special protection one only came to maturity. Small "spates" created by throwing in earth among the little things are needful. Salt must be administered at times. There seems no end to the pains and precautions which must be taken. The rainbow trout (*Salmo irideus*), which is now so much vaunted, beautiful as it is, is only deemed by Mr. Walker suitable for warm waters, and therefore would not probably flourish in Scotland. It spawns long after the ordinary trout, as does the grayling. It is too early to pronounce upon the merits of the American brook trout (*S. fontinalis*), while the curious "cutthroat trout" (*S. mykiss*) from North America has not yet been tried in our islands, but would probably answer well if introduced. Still there are plenty of fish with which the amateur pisciculturist can make experiments, and Mr. Walker has provided him with a most useful manual for his fascinating employment. This little book is thoroughly practical, full of hints and directions. Here and there repetitions may be found, due to these chapters having been originally published in the pages of *Land and Water*. With practice and watchfulness, Mr. Walker estimates, "we can practically hatch 995 out of 1,000 eggs, or thereabouts." The pisciculturist thus becomes a benefactor to his neighbourhood.

*Games of Patience*, by "Tarbart" (De La Rue & Co.), may be recommended. Several of the best games are included, and by the aid of various terms duly explained at the opening of the book the author succeeds in making clear what many writers have left in a vague and unsatisfactory state.

Messrs. De La Rue also send us a capital book on *The Laws and Principles of Bridge*, by "Hellespont," which contains some of the excel-



lent diagrams in colour familiar to the possessors of Cavendish's treatises.—Those who desire less elaborate books may turn to *Modern Bridge*, by "Slam" (Longmans & Co.).—*The A B C of Bridge*, by E. A. Tennant (Drane), seems rather an elementary performance.

*Sporting Sorrows*, by Fox Russell (Bristol, Arrowsmith), are light and amusing, and many people will be glad to see them reprinted from *Punch*.

#### CLASSICAL TRANSLATIONS.

*The Tale of the Argonauts.* By Apollonius of Rhodes. Translated by Arthur S. Way. "Temple Classics." (Dent & Co.)—The 'Argonautica' of Apollonius, the Greek text of which was first printed in 1496, is, we fancy, too little known to-day among the scholars of our universities, although it is undoubtedly a strong link in the epic chain between Homer and Virgil. It is, of course, the work of a student delving in the rich libraries of Alexandria for legends and myths connected with the towns which the heroes might be supposed to have visited, and as such it has its tedious moments of unnecessary geography, mystic religious rites, and learned origins, which will interest few but specialists. The character of Jason is the merest outline sketch; and though the interest of the story is well sustained till the beginning of the fourth book, from that point it flags, and is not revived by the frequent intervention of the *deus ex machina*, frequent even for a story of the days of demigods. The last book is too long. Still, this said, we have nothing but praise for the poem. Apollonius naturally challenges comparison with Homer, but he proves to be so distinctly original that it has been suggested that the young poet placed himself under rigid laws of intentional dissimilarity. Human interest abounds; but in particular stands out the painting of Medea's passion for Jason in the latter part of book iii. In no Greek poet—indeed, nowhere but in modern literature—could one find such analysis of conflicting motives and varying moods. Truth to nature, whether in dramatic scenes like Jason's interview with Aietes or the lighter play of the visit of Here and Athene to Cyprus, is a characteristic of this poet; he is rich in descriptive passages, pretty fancies, and telling *sententie*. One is surprised to recognize so many of Virgil's gems in their original setting: here are those admired similes, like that of the sunbeams reflected from water on to a wall, and here is the quarry from which was hewn the figure of love-distraught Dido. Such an original was pretty sure to have justice done to it at the hands of a translator like Mr. A. S. Way. The earlier English verse renderings of Fawkes and Green (1780) and Preston (1803) have, we are told, been long out of print, and are very rare. Mr. Way has rescued for us a treasure with his masterly rendering, which soon creates complete confidence in our interpreter. His language savours sufficiently of the archaic and learned; his verse is varied, and conspicuous especially for descriptive rhythm and pauses, so that the couplets of rhyming lines of six anapests are free from monotony. There are only a few trifling faults to find. Mr. Way is occasionally difficult, as in

The pebbles are flecked with scarf-skin strigil-stripped, and in the use of words like *dromond*, *tush*, *caring*. Compound words—useful as they are as an aid to compression—are employed to excess, as in

And with swift side-glance the all-quelling Vengeance-fiend espied.

We noted the following rhymes: "pours," "course"; "these," "cease"; "wot," "wrought"; but this is a small result after a close scrutiny of some 6,000 lines. Misprints

occur on p. 44, l. 1263 ("in" for *he*); p. 164, l. 754 ("whan" for *when*); and p. 184, l. 1323 ("which" for *with*). We append as a small specimen of this translation some lines in which Mr. Way's characteristics are slightly exaggerated. Book iii., ll. 1349-57:—

Then bent he his knees till supple they grew; and he filled with might  
His great heart, battle-afame as a boar, when he whetteth for fight  
Against the hunters his tusches, and drippeth the plenteous froth  
Down from his jaws to the ground, as he churneth their foam in his wrath.  
Now by this was the harvest of Earth-born men over all that field  
Upspringing; and all round bristled with thronging shield on shield  
And with battle-spears twy-pointed, and morions glorious-gleaming.  
The garb of the death-dealing War-god: the splendour thereof upstreaming  
Through the welkin lightened, and up to the heaven of heavens did it go.

Mr. Way's 'Argonautica' is a most charming addition to the 'Temple Classics.'

*Demosthenes: the Olynthiacs and Philippics.* Translated upon a New Principle by Otho Holland. (Methuen & Co.)—The translator's aim is stated to be the reproduction in English of the rhythm and order of words of the Greek original. Translators hitherto, says Mr. Holland, have attended "only to their author's words and phrases," and in breaking up the sentences have failed to convey the "elusive beauty" of the Greek language; he himself has laid stress on keeping "arrangement, proportion, and rhythm." We think he has aimed at the impossible; no amount of ingenuity could retain all three and yet give us English. The version before us seems to aim chiefly at reproducing the order of the Greek words, and seldom to attain to English. The following is the opening of the second Philippic:—

"Whenever, Athenians, a debate arises on how Philip by scheming or by violence is breaking the peace, every upon our side speech both by justice and by good feeling I see to be marked, and to speak although every one as he ought to do is thought, to be done nothing generally speaking that there should, or that made it to be worth while hearing: but to this by now drifted in fact have the whole of her affairs for Athens, that just in measure as one more, as well as more manifestly, establish Philip, as to you the peace to be transgressing, and at every Hellenic to be plotting, by so much does what you should do to advise you more difficult prove."

Here we look in vain for the "elusive beauty" of the Greek, and certainly have no modern English, which, as Prof. Postgate says, "is essentially a language of separate sentences." The only use to which we can conceive this version being put is the doubtful expedient of giving it as doctored English to a Greek prose class by way of bridging over the gulf between C. R. Kennedy and Demosthenes. Why not extend this experiment to a scientific work in German? We should then expect to be regaled with sentences like the following: "Yesterday at home have I a for novelty decidedly remarkable yet for English detestable translation of Demosthenes read."

In Messrs. Macmillan's well-known series of "Classical Translations" a welcome reprint appears of *The March of the Ten Thousand*, a translation of the 'Anabasis' of Xenophon by Mr. H. G. Dakyns. The book contains a useful life of Xenophon—an odd character, who rather suggests Boswell on his weaker side, vain and fussy at times, injudicious yet effective. But Xenophon was a much better man in action than in philosophy, and an abler writer than most people imagine.

#### MILITARY BOOKS.

*With the Scottish Yeomanry*, by Dr. Thomas Dewar, published by Messrs. Buncle & Co. of Arbroath, is a reprint, from an Arbroath paper, of letters from South Africa. Dr. Dewar seems to have begun his service as a private and ended it as a surgeon-captain. He is evidently

a patriotic Scot, but attacks "the home press" for writing, at a moment when our troops in his neighbourhood had fought two actions in two days with little success, "The period of warfare is over; the period of pacification has begun." The nature of Dr. Dewar's avocation gives weight to his criticism of the army medical system. He justly says of Mr. Burdett Coutts's charges, "Very distressing things have happened and may happen again. But, after all, this is a matter of transport, rather than of medicine." In another passage he expands and explains this view, but adds that the system of the Army Medical Corps is "antiquated" and "inelastic." An account of our troops firing into one another for some time (Ventersburg, November 5th) relates—for the first time, so far as we have noticed, in print—an incident such as has occurred on five occasions at least during the operations. A reference to polo playing in the midst of risky operations by mounted forces touches a charge which has been made in many letters home that horses sorely needed for marching have been frequently worn out in this way. Some strange errors are to be noted, such as "sox" (p. 137, 2 socks), and "fifteen to eighteen yards" ("long-range") for fifteen to eighteen hundred yards (p. 140).

An introduction, from the pen of the author of 'An Absent-minded War,' contributed to a little volume published by Messrs. Freeman & Co.—*The Military Maxims of Napoleon*, translated by Lieut.-General Sir G. C. D'Aguilar—explains how the neglect of the well-known principles of war by Sir Redvers Buller and other officers led to disaster.

M. M. H. Weil (Commandant Weil), in his first volume of *Le Prince Eugène et Murat*, relates the Italian war of 1813 with full use of the new material supplied by the transfer to the Record Office of the dispatches of Lord William Bentinck. It is odd to find that Murat was certain that his brother-in-law, Napoleon, would fall, while Lord William declared that he would triumph. The publisher is M. Albert Fontemoing.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In the selection from her sister's correspondence, published by Messrs. Horace Marshall & Son under the title of *In Memoriam Harriet Meuricoffre*, Mrs. George Butler has produced a book which will appeal to more than one class of readers. Married to a Swiss gentleman "at home" in Canton Vaud, but having his business at Naples, Madame Meuricoffre was, as it were, a citizen of three countries; and her large-hearted charity allowed her to attach herself warmly to those of adoption without losing any part of her affection for that of her birth. She witnessed the closing days of Bourbon government in Naples, and what she has to say of the state of things then is worth reading by any one who feels inclined to lose patience at the rate of progress made in matters political and social under the present régime:—

"The other day a disagreeable thing happened in Naples.....Six hundred soldiers in Naples, and others from elsewhere, at the same time (a preconcerted hour) drew their sabres and fell on the people in the streets.....There had not been the shadow of a demonstration or gathering of any kind to give them any excuse for this.....The streets were full of people in their Sunday clothes taking their Sunday stroll."

At any rate, it is something that the Neapolitan burgher can now take his Sunday stroll free from "disagreeable things" of this kind. It is pleasant to read of an English sailor who sent three of King Bombalino's soldiers "sprawling on their backs, one after another, with a straight fist blow between the eyes." The next year Madame Meuricoffre helped to welcome Garibaldi, whose personal acquaintance she made and of whom she gives



a very attractive description. She also worked in the hospitals among his wounded, as she did a quarter of a century later among the victims of the great cholera epidemic. Garibaldi's English auxiliaries seem by no means all to have belonged to the sporting or filibustering order, who will volunteer wherever there are heads to be cracked:—

"One is a watchmaker, another a traveller for a house; some from Edinburgh, and one or two fair Cumberland men. Amongst them are two Londoners, very well mannered. One was a clerk in a merchant's office, and a Sunday-school teacher."

Pleasant letters recording, e.g., a visit to Vesuvius in eruption, Swiss and Tyrolean tours, a holiday in Cairo, are mingled with more serious matter; but even when serious, Madame Meuricoffre is not without humour. Thus she mentions how on her reminding an Italian deputy, who came to her for consolation when suffering from an undeserved suspicion of cowardice in the cholera time, of the words, "Woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you," he replied, "Ah, yes, certainly, it was our great Cavour who said that." Only a few days ago, by the way, we found a well-known Italian man of letters referring to "the ancient Latin proverb which says that a prophet has no honour in his own country." A little more trouble might have been taken to ascertain the exact dates of some of the letters: "Kilmarney, 1853," or "Friday, 20th," is hardly satisfying. The letter of August, 1881, was certainly not "written from Appenzell."

*The Saints and Missionaries of the Anglo-Saxon Era.* Second Series. By the Rev. D. C. O. Adams. (Mowbray & Co.)—In this volume upwards of fifty missionary saints of the Anglo-Saxon era receive brief treatment, pleasant to read and fairly accurate; but there is no attempt at critical investigation, nor are authorities cited for the majority of the statements. Ingulph is quoted without any warning as to the forgeries under his name. It is a pity, when the lives are so short, that a good many pages should have been given to King Alfred. In the preface an apology is made for his inclusion. Though uncanonized, according to almost universal English opinion, Alfred is more worthy of the saintly halo than other pre-Norman royalties who readily attained the distinction. But is not the genuine reason for the sketch of Alfred in this book the fact that it is published in the year of the millenary celebration? It is a pity in a volume of early English saints that the Latin abbreviation "S." for Sanctus should be employed instead of *St.*, which has for centuries been the proper English abbreviation of Saint. "S. Edward," for instance, is a misnomer; if "S." is used it should be followed by Edwards.

*Princes and Poisoners.* By Frantz Funck-Brentano. Translated by George Maidment. (Duckworth & Co.)—This volume is not likely to prove so successful as the 'Legends of the Bastille,' of which it is the sequel. The translator gives, we think, too much importance to M. Brentano's researches; he is apparently unaware that his author, without sufficiently recognizing his obligation, has nevertheless drawn largely from Ravaisson's 'Archives de la Bastille,' vols. iv., v., vi., and vii. Indeed, it is appalling to think how many works similar to that before us may be compiled from the same source. Still the subjects are judiciously chosen. If the crimes of Madame de Brinvilliers have a world-wide fame, less known are the devils by which Madame de Montespan strove to win and to retain her hold of Louis XIV.'s affections—devils which included the slaughter of children in sacrifice to the Evil One; obscene masses, when her nude body served the priest as an altar; and attempts to poison not only her rival, but the king himself. If these abominations seem incredible, they proved to be undeniable. They had continued many years when the proceedings of

the *Chambre Ardente*, a court instituted in 1678 to judge the chief actors in the poisoning epidemics, revealed the favourite's complicity with the vilest of these criminals, La Voisin, Lesage, Guibourg, Filastre, &c. The consternation of Louvois and of La Reynie, Lieutenant-General of the Police, was only exceeded by that of the monarch; and to suppress the judicial evidence of the scandal, the sittings of the court were suspended. M. Brentano contents himself with recording the loathsome circumstances of these impious crimes, and, in the case of Madame de Brinvilliers, the full details of the penalty accorded them; he attempts no explanation of the reason of their prevalence. Perhaps he is wise, for even Ravaisson's comment on that point seems unsatisfactory: "From 1673 the confessors of Notre Dame had reported that most of the women accused themselves of having poisoned their husbands" ('Archives de la Bastille,' vol. iv. p. xii); and in December, 1680, M. de la Reynie records that

"at Vincennes and in the Bastille there are 147 prisoners, against every one of whom are serious charges of poisoning, or of trading in poison. Human life is a matter of public commerce. [Poison] is almost the only remedy used in all family difficulties; impieties, sacrileges, and abominations are practised in Paris, in the country, and in the provinces."—Archives de la Bastille, vol. vi. p. 399.

But after minute study of the problem the only solution M. Ravaisson can suggest is that the Fronde, by sending the men to the field of battle, had left the women to enjoy a liberty which they lost on the restoration of peace. Passion became all the more violent under the reimposed restraint, and sought to free itself by aid of poison and witchcraft: "En 1677, la France ressemblait au Bas-Empire du VI<sup>e</sup> siècle; la dissolution des mœurs, l'ardeur au gain, l'appât des querelles religieuses étaient les mêmes" ('Archives de la Bastille,' vol. iv. p. xi).

If M. Brentano is able to cast over his collection of horrors a thin veil of historical interest, no such expedient is possible to Mr. H. B. Irving. His *Studies of French Criminals* (Heinemann) belong to the 'Newgate Calendar' type of literature. To excite the depraved curiosity that alone can tolerate such recitals, the author sets forth in jocular fashion the most revolting details connected with the most atrocious murders committed in France during the nineteenth century. His chief hero is Lacenaire, who held that "to kill without remorse is the highest of pleasures."

MESSRS. BELL have sent us a very elegant little edition of Browning's *Rabbi Ben Ezra*, with a note. The printing and decoration are good specimens of the work of the Chiswick Press.

We suppose that to be sliced up for a 'Reader' is an even higher honour for an author than to be turned into a birthday book, and so we presume *The George Eliot Reader*, edited by Miss Elizabeth Lee (Blackwood & Sons), is a proof of the revival of the novelist's popularity, which began to decline with the publication of 'Daniel Deronda' and reached a very low point about ten years ago. Two further instalments of the dainty "Warwick Edition" of her works have reached us from the publishers, *Scenes of Clerical Life* and *Silas Marner*.—A sixpenny edition of *Sant' Ilario*, by Mr. Marion Crawford, has been issued by Messrs. Macmillan.

We have received the reports of the free libraries at Battersea (Kent & Matthews) and Liverpool (Liverpool, Tinling & Co.). At Battersea a reading-room for children is in course of erection and additional facilities for readers are being arranged at the Central Library. At Liverpool trade is good, and there are consequently fewer artisans in the

reading-rooms; but the demand in the reference library for books of a technical character and for the study of modern languages increases; and Greek and Latin are falling into neglect.—*Peterhead Literature*, by Mr. W. L. Taylor (Peterhead, Scrogie), is a creditable compilation, but really Mr. Taylor goes too far in claiming Sir John Skelton as a glory of Peterhead because he described the coast about there!

WE have on our table *Tennyson*, by M. Luce (Dent),—*Kebleland*, edited by W. Thorn Warren (Simpkin),—*A Perfect Prince*, by F. B. Jeffery (Stock),—*Pitt Press Series: Waterloo*, by Erekmann-Chatrian, edited by A. R. Ropes (Cambridge, University Press),—*The Antarctic Manual, 1901*, edited by G. Murray (Royal Geographical Society),—*Memory*, by F. W. Colegrove (Bell),—*Shell Life*, by E. Step (Warne),—*Practical Draughtsmen's Work*, edited by P. N. Hasluck (Cassell),—*Gyda the Goth*, by E. Western (Burleigh),—*God's Rebel*, by H. Fuller (Jarrold),—*The Songs of Christine*, by E. M. Holden (Morton & Burt),—*Transfiguration, and other Verses*, by C. Blunt and J. Fielding (G. Allen),—*Poems*, by J. Lloyd (Stock),—*Christian Duty*, by the Rev. V. Staley (Mowbray),—and *Thoughts for the Sundays of the Year*, by H. C. G. Moule, D.D. (R.T.S.). Among New Editions we have *How to See Bristol*, by the late J. F. Nicholls, F.S.A. (Bristol, Arrowsmith),—and *Evolution and Religion*, by A. J. Dadson (Sonnenschein).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

Fenton (F.), *The Five Books of Moses*, translated into English, cr. 8vo, 2/6 net.

## Fine Art and Archaeology.

Fawdry (R. C.), *Plane Geometrical Drawing*, 6/ net.  
Markham (C. A.), *The Stone Crosses of the County of Northampton*, imp. 8vo, 10/6 net.

## History and Biography.

Kingslake (A. W.), *The Invasion of the Crimea*, Vol. 6, Cheaper Edition, cr. 8vo, 3/6  
Some Recollections of Jean Ingelow and her Early Friends, cr. 8vo, 3/6

## Science.

Dorland (W. A. N.), *The Illustrated Medical Dictionary*, Second Edition, roy. 8vo, 19/ net; Modern Obstetrics, General and Operative, Second Edition, roy. 8vo, 16/ net.  
Leighton (G. R.), *The Life-History of British Serpents and their Local Distribution*, cr. 8vo, 5/ net.  
Senn (N.), *Practical Surgery for the General Practitioner*, roy. 8vo, 26/ net.  
Walker (J. E.), *An Explanation of the Method of obtaining the Position at Sea known as the "New Navigation"*, 8vo, 3/6 net.

## General Literature.

Aidé (Hamilton), *The Snares of the World*, cr. 8vo, 6/  
Barlow (Jane), *From the Land of the Shamrock*, cr. 8vo, 6/  
Bigelow (Mrs. Foulney), *While Charlie was Away*, 2/6  
Bright (A. D.), *Three Xmas Gifts, and other Tales*, 3/ net.  
Gerard (Dorothea), *The Million*, cr. 8vo, 6/  
Macdonald (D.) and Edgar (J. F.), *The Warrigals' Well*, a North Australian Story, cr. 8vo, 6/  
Marryat (Capt.), *Peter Simple*, illustrations by E. J. Wheeler, introduction by W. L. Courtney, cr. 8vo, 3/6  
Marshall (C.), *Real Life*, cr. 8vo, 6/  
Military Maxims of Napoleon, translated by Lieut.-General Sir G. C. D'Agular, 18mo, 2/6 net.  
Naoroji (D.), *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India*, 8vo, 10/6  
Peake (E. E.), *The Darlingtones*, cr. 8vo, 4/  
Pinkerton (T.), *Blue Bonnets Up*, cr. 8vo, 6/

## FOREIGN.

## Theology.

Dionysii Cartusiani Opera Omnia, Vol. 13, 12m.  
Dachwachoff, *Das Martyrium des hl. Eustatius v. Mzchetha*, 1m.  
Schwarz (A.), *Der hermeneutische Syllogismus in der talmudischen Litteratur*, 6m 50.

## Poetry and the Drama.

Euripides, *der Dichter der griechischen Aufklärung*, v. W. Nestle, 15m.  
Goethe's Werke, hrg. im Auftrage der Grossherzogin Sophie v. Sachsen, Series 1, Vol. 13, Series 2, Vol. 23, Series 4, Vols. 22 and 24, 19m. 20.

## History and Biography.

Gaston-Routier, *Un Point d'Histoire Contemporaine*, 3fr. 50.  
Maillard (F.), *Le Requiem des Gens de Lettres*, 4fr.  
Venetianische Depeschen vom Kaiserhof, hrg. v. der kaiserlichen Wiener Akademie: Series 2, Vol. 1, 1667-61, 11m.

## Geography and Travel.

En Sicile, Guid. du Savant et du Touriste, 10fr.

## Philology.

Xenophon's Hipparchicus, rec. P. Cerochi, 2m.

## General Literature.

Lombard (J.), *L'Agonie*, 3fr. 50.

## BYRON AND PETRARCH.

Edgbarrow, Crowthorne, Berks.

It is of course impossible, in the absence of proof positive, to solve your correspondent's problem, namely, whether it was Byron or Medwin who translated the extract from Petrarch's 'Africa' which appears (over Lord Byron's name) in Ugo Foscolo's 'Essays on Petrarch.' A careful perusal of 'Conversations of Lord Byron' induces me to believe that, unless Medwin's statement has been authoritatively disproved, we must accept it without reserve. A great deal of prejudice against Medwin has died away since the book first appeared, and many objections to it have been removed by more intimate knowledge of circumstances which in 1824 were practically unknown. That the book is full of anachronisms and of confused chronology is indisputable, but Medwin's facts have in most instances been verified, and his good faith admits of no suspicion. He does not trouble himself to dissect Byron's statements, but he never deliberately states that which of his own knowledge is false.

There cannot be any connexion, as your correspondent supposes, between the period when 'Marino Faliero' failed on the stage and the period when the alleged conversation took place. The tragedy—in opposition to Byron's wishes—was produced on April 25th, 1821, whereas Medwin did not meet Byron until November 20th, 1821, seven months later. The conversation to which Medwin (pp. 95, 96) alludes must have taken place at some time between November 20th, 1821, and January 22nd, 1822; we cannot get nearer than that. The only light that has been thrown on the matter takes the form of an undated letter, from Ugo Foscolo to John Murray, which must have been written after receipt of the translation and previous to the publication of the 'Essays on Petrarch' in 1823. In that letter Foscolo asks whether he may ascribe the translation to Byron's pen. Murray—who was misled by Byron's ambiguous phrases, "I shall send you a version.....but you must not expect it to be good.....I have not the turn for those things" (italics are mine)—evidently thought that the translation was Byron's, and said so. Your correspondent goes a little out of her way when she states that Medwin alleges, "This conversation with Lord Byron on the subject of the 'long dull epic'.....took place some days after the day on which the poet was smarting under the ill reception of his 'Marino Faliero,'" and adds, "This was Ada's birthday." Clearly your correspondent is mistaken. Medwin did not assert that the conversation took place "on Ada's birthday." Unfortunately, Medwin never affixed dates to his notes. The reader is left to draw his own conclusions. I offer an example. On p. 96 there is a paragraph commencing "There are three good lines," &c. On p. 99 we find "This is Ada's birthday," &c. Now there cannot be any connexion (as to time) between those statements. Ada's birthday fell on December 10th—that is to say, more than one month before Byron told Murray that he would, "in a post or two," send him a version of the Petrarch extract. Both Medwin's statements may be strictly true, although chronologically misplaced. Take the Polidori incident. There is no evidence to show at what period a knowledge of Polidori's death came to Byron. That it did come to his knowledge is certain, but it is highly improbable that the news of Polidori's death (which occurred in April, 1821) should only have reached Byron, after so dramatic a presentiment, on December 11th of that year! And yet in his jumbling records Medwin certainly implies it. He speaks of Ada's birthday and Polidori's death in conjunction with the moaning lamentations of a widow who had just

then lost her only child—a presage of evil fulfilled on the following day through a letter from Murray.

But, in spite of such blemishes, and of other objections which have been urged against Medwin, my belief in his veracity remains unshaken. Clumsiness and dishonesty lie far apart; facts are no less facts when extracted from a heap of irrelevant matter.

Medwin, without the slightest fear of contradiction in the year of Byron's death, deliberately states that he turned the extract from Petrarch "into couplets (and lame enough they were), which Byron forwarded by the next courier to England." That is a statement which no man would dare to make, under such circumstances, unless confident that its truth could not be challenged. Mystification was one of Byron's weaknesses. The spirit of mischief pervades the whole incident, and it must be borne in mind that Byron never in so many words said that the translation was his own. His main object was to hoax Ugo Foscolo, and he was "curious to hear Foscolo's opinion upon it." When in the course of time a furiously complimentary acknowledgment arrived, Byron laughed heartily at the success of his practical joke. That Byron could have done the work better than Medwin is evident from an extract dealing with a portion of 'Mago's Speech' given on p. 97 of Medwin's book. Had Byron translated the entire passage those lines would doubtless have replaced

Yet, thing of dust, and on the verge of night,  
Man dares to climb the stars, and on the height  
Of heaven his owlet vision dares to bend  
From that low earth where all his hopes descend

in Medwin's version. The circumstance that Byron's vigorous lines found no place in Foscolo's 'Essays on Petrarch,' which were published in 1823, goes far to justify Medwin's statement that he, and not Byron, was the translator of the lines quoted by your correspondent.

RICHARD EDGUMBE.

## THE PAN-CELTIC CONGRESS.

II.

The art side of dress was exemplified by the Hon. W. Gibson, who took the chair in the section under which the discussion of that subject fell. He maintains that the kilt was worn in Ireland within times of which we have historic cognizance, and therefore he and his fellow-countrymen have as good a right to it as the Scots, who, after all, take their name from a north of Ireland race. He therefore wears what most people would call a modification of the Highland garb. The Hon. Stuart Erskine disputes this attitude, on the ground that his nation's costume has developed naturally and is still a living dress. The Irish do not greatly support Mr. Gibson, though doubtless his dress is more suited to every-day life than the one they favour, namely, a green belted frieze tunic, green frieze trousers, buttoned down from the knee to the ankle and laced across the calf with leather straps in a double figure of eight, the straps being first passed under a boot of untanned leather. Over the tunic a cloak is worn corresponding to the Highland plaid, which falls below the right shoulder, and is pinned across the left with a gold or silver brooch. A green gold-embroidered Glen-garry cap completes a decidedly picturesque costume, which a few Irish delegates wore at the Congress, and it bids fair to be the festival dress of the Irish. But it would certainly need modification for every-day wear. Mr. Ward, the son of the Headman or so-called "King" of Tory Island, certainly danced the Irish jig with wonderful agility in this dress, but he seemed quite done up after it, owing to its superfluous warmth for summer wear.

And this leads us to the consideration of the national Celtic pastimes. It was claimed that hurling or hurley, the national game of the Irish, is of great antiquity. This is undoubtedly true,

for it figures conspicuously in the Cuchullin saga. It may be described as a combination of lacrosse and hockey, if not a better game than either, the *camán* or bat with which it is played being so broad as not only to enable the player to hit the ball with greater freedom, but to carry it down the field with a series of "daps" over the heads of the players. It is time we had an exhibition game of hurley at the Crystal Palace, the more so as it has found its way into England under the auspices of the Gaelic League.

For the Bretons it was claimed that football originated with them. It would certainly appear that they and the Cornish were engaged in a form of football from very early times, tempting us to the belief that the Britons were playing it at the time of the Roman invasion. There was no discussion as to the origin of the Irish and Scotch dances—the Welsh have dropped their national dances entirely since the wave of Methodism swept the Principality. But we should hazard the supposition that they were of South European origin, for the Irish jigs and reels, which are certainly more primitive than the corresponding Scotch dances, are suspiciously like the Spanish step-dances. However this may be, the exhibition of Irish and Highland dances given in Dublin at the Congress concerts proved that the latter are the more graceful, because the more developed in an artistic direction. As one critic of the Irish jig, who not unnaturally objected to the rigidity of the arms and body which is traditional amongst the old school of performers, remarked in a delightful bull, "It's just like regulated locomotor ataxy"—a very sound description, for the legs seem to run away with the performer in a series of violently rapid and noisy movements, whilst the rest of his frame remains as it were paralyzed. Mr. Ward, of Tory Island, however, seems capable of better things, for some of his steps were light and graceful; and two little girls dressed in Connemara cloaks and green frocks moved their arms prettily and circled about with comparative grace.

In the literary section an interesting paper on the Arthurian legends was read by Mr. Stuart Glennie. He showed that Tennyson had adopted views of the character of Modred, Merlin, and Vivien which were not in keeping with the most received Celtic estimates, the inference being that our poet had not taken the trouble to study the early Welsh authorities with sufficient care. The Manx have a similar grievance against Sir Walter Scott for traducing their national hero William Christian, Illam Dhoane; and there was a lively *rencontre* between Mr. Standish O'Grady and a Welsh delegate on the subject of an amusing legend related by the former, distinctly reflecting on King Arthur's sense of chivalry.

The musical section was rendered interesting by an illustrated lecture on Scotch Gaelic music and a suggestion that a collection of the most typical songs of the five Celtic nations, delightful illustrations of which were given at the two folk-song concerts held during the week, should be got together for publication in a single volume, the airs of each nationality being introduced by a preface calling attention to their special modal and other peculiarities.

But the most learned paper read at the Congress, and the one followed by the most fruitful discussion, was Prof. Kuno Meyer's address on the present state of Celtic studies. These he stated to be in a more flourishing condition than ever. Students in large and increasing numbers were devoting themselves to them, and the interest of the general public was widening and deepening in the Celtic investigation and its results, and it was beginning to realize at last that there was an important literature in Irish and Welsh, of



which a mere fraction only has hitherto been published. Whilst Oxford has a Celtic Chair, Ireland was still without a professor of Celtic. He therefore expressed the hope that such a chair would be established at Dublin University or in connexion with a Roman Catholic university in Ireland. He spoke of the remarkable spread during the last few years of Celtic studies to Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, and mentioned some of Italy's contributions to Celtic research. Passing to Great Britain and Ireland, he was able to record a great activity in relation to Celtic studies, and more especially in Wales and Ireland, largely owing to the energy of the various societies for the preservation and cultivation of the national language. He mentioned a rumour, which he hoped was well founded, namely, that the Irish Parliamentary party was next session going to ask the Government for a grant towards cataloguing Irish manuscripts, a rumour which Mr. W. B. Yeats confirmed by a statement that this proposed action of the Irish members was suggested by a sub-committee of the Irish Literary Society of London. Prof. Meyer concluded by advocating the formation of a committee to arrange for the publication of a bibliography of Celtic works, a suggestion supported by Prof. Zimmer and embodied in a resolution passed at the plenary meeting of the Congress—indeed, the only resolution of substantial value passed.

It is probable that the next Pan-Celtic Congress will be held in the Isle of Man a year hence.

#### THE PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co.'s new volumes for the approaching season include *The National Portrait Gallery*, edited by Lionel Cust, Vol. I.,—Behind the Scenes in the Transvaal, by D. M. Wilson,—*The Earth's Beginning*, by Sir R. S. T. Ball,—*Early Christianity and Paganism*, by the Very Rev. H. D. M. Spence,—an illustrated and partly rewritten edition of *Social England*,—*The Military Forces of the Crown*, by Col. W. H. Daniel,—*Lepidus the Centurion*, by E. L. Arnold,—*A Man of Millions*, by S. R. Keightley,—*The Princess Cynthia*, by M. Bryant,—*The Giant's Gate*, by M. Pemberton,—*The Laird's Luck*, and other Fireside Tales, by A. T. Quiller-Couch,—*The Ambassador's Adventure*, by Allen Upward,—*Chinese Porcelain*, by C. Monkhouse,—*Wyllie's Marine Painting in Water Colour*, by W. L. Wyllie,—*British Sculpture and Sculptors of To-day*, by M. H. Spielmann,—*A Masque of Days*, from the *Last Essays of Elia*, newly dressed and decorated by Walter Crane,—*The Life and Work of the Redeemer*, by various authors,—*Strange Adventures in Dicky-bird Land*, by R. Kearton,—*The Automobile*, revised and edited by P. N. Hasluck,—*Practical Plumbers' Work*,—*Practical Painting and Graining*,—*London Afternoons*, by the Rev. W. J. Loftie,—*Alfred Shaw, Cricketer, his Career and Reminiscences*, recorded by A. W. Pullen,—in the "Work Handbooks": *Photographic Cameras and Accessories*; *Optical Lanterns*; and *Engraving Metals*,—R. H. S. Curves, by Prof. R. H. Smith,—*Under the Great Bear*, by K. Munroe,—*With the Redskins on the War-path*, by S. Walkey,—*Topsy Turvy Tales*, by S. H. Hamer,—*Tom and some other Girls*, by J. Mansergh,—Mrs. Pederson's Niece, by I. S. Robson,—*The Practical Nursing of Infants and Children*, by F. C. Madden,—and a number of books for the young and reprints of popular series.

Mr. John Long's autumn announcements consist mainly of six-shilling novels; for example:—*The Curse of Eden*, by the author of 'The Master Sinner',—*The Real Christian*, by Lucas Cleeve,—*Barbara West*, by Keighley Snowden,—*An Ill Wind*, by Mrs. Lovett Cameron,—*The Lovely Mrs. Pemberton*, by

Florence Warden,—*The Golden Spur*, by J. S. Fletcher,—*The Diva*, by Annie Thomas (Mrs. Pender Cudlip),—*A Daughter of England*, by May Crommelin,—*Houses of Ignorance*, by Frederic Carrel,—*A Social Pretender*, by Winifred Graham,—*The Lords of Life*, by Bessie Dill,—*In the Blood*, by William Sylvester Walker ("Coo-ee"),—*The Green Turbans*, by J. MacLaren Cobban,—*The Mission of Margaret*, by Miss Adeline Sergeant,—*A Man of Iron*, by J. Morgan-De-Groot,—*Blue Bonnets Up*, by Thomas Pinkerton,—*Miss Paunceforte's Peril*, by Mrs. Charles Martin,—*The Heretic and also Through the Mists*, by R. J. Lees,—*No Vindication*, by Mrs. Coulson Kernahan,—and *Women must Weep*, by Sarah Tytler.

#### A NOTE ON 'WYNNERE AND WASTOURE.'

MR. GOLLANCEZ's comment that my account of Scharshill is all to be found on p. xiii of his introduction is, to say the least, most disingenuous (Scharshill, by the way, died a friar. See 'Eulogium Hist.', iii. 334). May I also advise the expediency of avoiding misrepresentation? Having expressly disclaimed any charge of "guilt," I presumed to correct; and, as I cannot emulate the beautiful if oppressive humility of my critic, there I rest. The banners in the poem as I read it are those of both armies, not of one side only. Both had banners (l. 51), and the prince's enumeration included (l. 123) "bothe thies ferdes folke in the felde." Hence, in spite of a possible argument from l. 193, it makes a very lopsided narrative if no detail whatever is found for one of the contending armies. The prince had the commanders of both before him; the banners of both, too, stood on the field behind. Of course I admit my slip in assigning the words of Wastoure to Wynnere; that detail was immaterial for my point—the date. One passage of the introduction said that internal evidence definitely fixed that as "circa 1350"; another said it might with some assurance be assigned to the end of 1347 or beginning of 1348; always Mr. Gollancez construed circa 1350 as anterior to 1351. The alliterative poems are not mere puzzles for philologists; they are in the highest sense historical documents. Disinterested historical critics will, I trust—if Mr. Gollancez cannot—appreciate the evidence I have submitted as definitely fixing circa 1357-8 for 'Wynnere and Wastoure.' Mr. Gollancez's date accounts for neither Pope, friars, judges, nor Scharshill, nor does it give any clue whatever to the figurative battle scene. Mine explains all.

From 1357 to 1359, it may not be amiss to remember, there were special chivalric and Round Table functions—"hasludia invisa a tempore regis Arthuri in festo Sancti Georgii ubi equitarunt Angli, Scotti et captivi Francei" ('Eulogium Historiarum,' iii. 227). There was, according to the 'Brut,' in 33 Edward III.

"a wondir ryal and a costelew feste of Seynt George passinge any oþer þat ever was iholde þer ever afore Wherefore þe kyng of fraunce in scornynge sayde that he sawe nevere ne herd of soche solempne festes ne rialteis holden ne done with Tayles withouten paynge of gold or silver."

To some such occasions as these, in my opinion (here to be taken, I hope, as a working hypothesis not too "self-assertive"), belong the Garter poems, of which 'Wynnere and Wastoure' is one. As illustrating another side to the international relations than that suggested by King John's alleged sarcasm, I advert to La Curne de Sainte Palaye's appendix to the 'Mémoires,' containing an abstract of Gasse de la Bigne's 'Déduits de la Chasse,' showing that just such another poem as 'Wynnere and Wastoure' was being written in French in 1359 by King John's desire and by his chaplain, then with him in England. It is, like the English poem, a law plea and debate before the king, the parties being

*Déduit de chiens* and *Déduit d'oiseaux*, and closes by Dame Reason, the king's counsellor, effecting a compromise, paying warm tribute the while to the valour of Edward III. and his accomplishment in the rival arts of hunting and falconry. Before we end with the alliterative poems we shall perhaps see that there is point in the difference between 1350 and 1358. G. N.

#### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AT PLYMOUTH.

II.

At a business meeting held on Wednesday evening, August 28th, the report of the Council was adopted. The death roll of the year includes the names of Mr. R. C. Christie, whose goodwill to the Association has been manifested in a striking manner by a bequest of 2,000l. after the death of Mrs. Christie; the Rev. Prof. W. P. Dickson, who presided over the meeting held at Glasgow in 1888; and Sir H. W. Acland, who was one of the founders of the Association, and for many years an original and striking figure in Oxford life. The twenty-third annual meeting, which took place at Bristol last year, was a large and successful gathering. A warm invitation to hold the annual meeting at Birmingham in 1902 had been received from the municipal, University, and library authorities of that city. The innovation of holding monthly meetings at different important library centres had proved highly successful. Provincial gatherings had been arranged at Manchester, Darlington, Cardiff, Croydon, and Carlisle. While the Council did not wish to curtail the privileges of the London members, they were of opinion that the practice of having provincial meetings should be continued and extended. Thanks were given to Mr. H. Guppy, under whose honorary editorship the *Library Association Record* had been regularly published, and to Mr. Frank Paey, who had carried on the duties of honorary secretary with unflinching tact and ability. The Public Libraries Acts had been adopted in fourteen places in the United Kingdom, and the Association were congratulated upon the passing of their new Public Libraries Bill. The Education Committee were able to present a satisfactory record of work carried on in what must be considered as one of the most important subjects claiming the attention of the members. The balance-sheet and accounts of the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. R. Tedder) showed that the financial affairs of the Association were in a sound condition.

The reading of papers and discussions on the important questions of classification and cataloguing were resumed on Thursday morning, August 29th. A resolution was carried expressing the warm appreciation of the members of the Library Association of the fact that the Catalogue of books in the British Museum had been printed, and thereby made available for the use of scholars throughout the world. That monumental catalogue was the most important contribution ever made to bibliographical science, and must rank among the great literary achievements of the nineteenth century. Mr. L. Acland Taylor (Bristol Museum) dealt with 'Shelf Classification: Ways and Means.' The accumulated wealth of a large library could only be rendered fully available by being set out on closely classified shelves, and the speaker recommended the Dewey decimal classification. The question of 'The Construction of the Subject Catalogue in Scientific and Technical Libraries' was developed by Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme (Patent Office, London). Subject catalogues were of two types, the title-subject and the class-catalogue, the former a mere finding list, the latter being essential to the proper division and definition of literary subject matter. The advantages of 'Dictionary Catalogues' were supported by Mr. W. E. Doubleday (Hampstead), and the merits of the rival

system of 'Classified Catalogues' urged in a paper by Mr. J. H. Quinn (Chelsea). In the course of the discussion the President advocated a subject catalogue for every library, large or small. The proceedings terminated with votes of thanks. In the afternoon, in response to an hospitable invitation from the Mayor of Plymouth (Mr. J. A. Bellamy), the members enjoyed a pleasant trip up the river Tamar to Cotehele by steamer. The usual Association dinner took place in the evening. On Friday, August 30th, a large party made an excursion to the country seat of the Duke of Bedford, Endsleigh, near Tavistock.

### Literary Gossip.

MR. KIPLING's new barrack-room ballad, in which the spokesman is with the Mounted Infantry in South Africa, will appear in the October number of the *Windsor Magazine*, illustrated, as was 'Stalky & Co.' by Mr. Raven Hill.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. have fixed September 20th as the date of publication of vols. i. and ii. of the Supplement to the 'Dictionary of National Biography.' They will publish the third and concluding volume, which includes a memoir of Queen Victoria, on October 25th.

MR. CLEMENT SHORTER will contribute the Buckinghamshire volume to Messrs. Macmillan & Co.'s "Highways and Byways" series.

'SPRING'S IMMORTALITY' and 'Pictures of Travel,' the two volumes of verse by Mr. Mackenzie Bell, being out of print, Mr. Thomas Burleigh will issue in the autumn a collected edition of the poems by that author in one volume.

AN English translation, greatly abridged, of the memoirs of Casanova is in preparation.

DR. MOSES HARVEY, who died on Tuesday at St. Johns, Newfoundland, at the age of eighty-two, was the author of various works on Newfoundland, including 'Newfoundland, the Oldest British Colony' (1883), and 'Text-Book of Newfoundland History' (1885), and was also the discoverer of a new species of gigantic cuttlefish, named *Megalotuthis harveyi*, in 1873. He wrote the articles on 'Labrador' and 'Newfoundland' in the ninth edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.'

MR. FISHER UNWIN is publishing 'The Tale of a Town' and 'An Enchanted Sea,' by Mr. Edward Martyn. 'The Tale of a Town' is a comedy of affairs in five acts, the original from which Mr. George Moore took his play called 'The Bending of the Bough,' produced last year in Dublin at the Irish Literary Theatre. 'An Enchanted Sea' is a play in four acts, dealing with the influences of nature at the beginning of the modern intellectual revival in Ireland.

MR. HEINEMANN has in preparation a series of handy volumes on "The Great Peoples," somewhat after the plan of Mr. J. E. Green's 'Short History of the English People.' The series is under the editorship of Prof. F. York Powell, and the first volume, on 'The Spanish People: their Origin, Growth, and Influence,' by Major M. A. S. Hume, will be followed by 'The French People,' by Mr. Arthur Hassall, and 'The Russian People,' by Mr. Fitzmaurice Kelly.

A SPECIAL edition of the first number of the *Connoisseur*, printed upon vellum, is to be issued, and copies of it have been commanded by the King.

THE Vatican Press has issued a specially printed edition of Leo XIII.'s 'New Century Ode,' together with the various translations of it made into foreign tongues. A copy of the work has been sent to the various translators, one such having been received in London by Mr. Francis Thompson, who had rendered the Leonine ode into English for the *Tablet*.

THE Central Welsh Board under the Welsh Intermediate Education Act publish their Fourth Annual Report, printed for them for their office at Cardiff by Mr. Horace Hart, of Oxford.

It is proposed to hold an International Congress of Historical Sciences at Rome next spring. The president of the executive committee is Count Enrico di S. Martino, Municipal Assessor of Rome, and the president of the committee to promote the meeting is Prof. Ettore Pais. The general secretary is Prof. Giacomo Gorrini, Director of the Archives of the Foreign Office.

It may be of interest to applicants for the post of Assistant German Lecturer at the Birmingham University to know that the selected candidate will not be permitted to accept employment at other educational establishments in the city, nor will he be allowed to hold classes on his own account.

THE decease is announced of M. Alexandre Sorel, who, besides being a compiler of well-known law-books, was an authority on the story of Joan of Arc. He wrote a monograph on 'La Maison de Jeanne d'Arc à Domrémy' and another on 'La Prise de Jeanne d'Arc à Compiègne,' and he also made contributions to the history of the Revolution by his studies on 'Le Couvent des Carmes et le Séminaire de St. Sulpice pendant la Terreur' and 'Le Château de Chantilly pendant la Révolution.' — Mr. Samuel Neil, long Rector of the Moffat Academy, died in Edinburgh last week. He wrote several school-books in the fifties — 'The Art of Reasoning,' 'Elements of Rhetoric,' &c. He also published some books on Shakspeare.

THE most interesting Parliamentary Papers of the week to learned readers will be found under 'Science Gossip.' There are also some Charities' Reports, such as for St. Botolph, Bishopsgate (11d.); and the Report of the Civil Service Commissioners for 1900 (8d.).

### SCIENCE

*Comment la Route crée le Type Social.* Par E. Demolins. (Paris, Didot.)

THIS is a partial account of the large theory supported by the author and some of his colleagues, and gives us 'Les Routes de l'Antiquité.' A second volume will contain his views on the modern migrations and movements of the human race. The author is already known to us by his book explaining the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon race of to-day, and we took up the present work with much sympathy, yet we cannot but confess considerable disappointment. The thesis he supports is stated with great

precision in his preface. The differences of race which are found in the world are not primitive differences, but are the mere consequences of an earlier cause. And this cause is the route which a people has pursued in seeking its present home. Not only is it the cause, but the sole cause. National genius and characteristics are determined by it. The author refers to his master Henri de Tourville as the original genius who discovered this great and pregnant principle, and a school of his pupils is occupied in working out the details.

The simplicity of this theory reflects the extreme simplicity of the author, who seems to have no shadow of doubt that he has perfectly solved all the mysteries of the diversity of the human race. In the last generation Henry Thomas Buckle gave to the world a very similar theory, by which the early civilization and development of races were accounted for by the climate in which they lived. Heat and moisture had been sufficient to create the early splendours of Mesopotamia and of Egypt, for these causes produce ample and cheap food, and these again allow increase of population and leisure for higher pursuits. Buckle's theory, set forth with great learning and some genius, failed to convince the world of more than its very partial truth. Such will be the case with this new French theory. It brings out many interesting facts. It lays due stress on the character of early highways. It shows what we all knew before, that the same physical circumstances produce in widely sundered peoples the same ideas and habits. But does it prove any more? And at the very outset the theory teems with unproved assumptions. So far as can be gathered from the volume, it is assumed that all the human race started from the high plateaus of Central Asia, and spread from that centre over the world. It is assumed that these people were all uniform, and that all their differences were subsequent to their original life. It is further assumed that no races under the same conditions can show any social varieties. Is the world to swallow these assertions upon the *ipse dixit* of M. de Tourville? Scattered over the Pacific islands we find the islanders of Samoa, of the Solomon Islands, of the Gilbert Islands, of the Fijis, all showing marked contrasts. How are these accounted for by a difference of route? Malays and Papuans live intermixed, and will remain contrasted to the end of time; how will the theory account for this? And why should there be any route at all? Is it not possible that the human race sprang from many centres, and that many of the primitive populations never wandered from their original seats? Throughout the whole book not one word is said about differences of language. Are these, too, to be the result of wandering? This would no doubt be asserted by the author, as he thinks that the beauty of the Greek type was derived from the Georgian or Circassian; and this, again, was caused by living in rich valleys, where there was little need of labour and great ease of life.

So much for his theories. His facts, though generally interesting and well selected, are not always beyond cavil. He says



it is not possible to turn the roving, hunting Red Indians into settled cultivators of the ground. That is not true of the Cherokees; it is not true of the many tribes converted and settled by the Jesuits along the St. Lawrence. Any traveller may see them coming on and off the steamers between Montreal and Toronto. The law which the author seeks to establish is that hunters will not turn into shepherds, therefore primitive man cannot have been a hunter. The earliest remains of man seem to point to a different conclusion. Our author's theory that the Pelasgian race developed its great Cyclopean architecture either for the purpose of draining marshy valleys, or in order to get the great stones which encumbered them out of the way, is amusing. Because the Russians find that the Mingrelians will not work without singing, he supposes that the walls of Tiryns and Mycenæ were raised to the sound of Pelasgian songs. We should fancy the sound of whips is far more likely to have been the accompaniment.

But though there is so much to criticize, we cannot close without praising heartily the orderly and clear exposition, which enables the reader to follow the author's argument easily and with lively interest. The book is decidedly stimulating, and as such we recommend it to every student of anthropology.

*The Feeding of Animals.* By Whitman Howard Jordan. (Macmillan & Co.)—This volume is the last upon the list of Messrs. Macmillan's "Rural Science Series." It will not be the most interesting to the casual reader, and this for the same reason that it will prove of exceptional value to the student of the series: it is more scientific than most of its fellows. The author is Director of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, and America is admittedly the home of culture. In conservative England it may reasonably be supposed that the average small farmer with a few calves and a litter or two of porkers to fatten will not reap any material benefit from the wisdom contained in a passage like the following from Mr. Jordan's chapter on the feeding of growing animals:—

"A gain of 1·5 to 2 pounds live weight means a storage of not less than '24 to '33 of a pound of dry protein in the animal's body, and the laying on, when the animal is fed for fattening, of '21 to '28 of a pound of actual fat."

Pondering upon this, one of Mr. Thomas Hardy's Wessex yeomen might be imagined hailing with relief and hope the last two words in the sentence, whilst remaining sadly unimproved by what had gone before. Also, the use of the American equivalents for the names by which grain and other foodstuffs are known in England presents a stumbling-block which the rural mind will not easily overcome on this side of the Atlantic. On the other hand, as the author points out:—

"The facts which are fundamentally necessary to a broad understanding of the economy of cattle feeding pertain, first of all, to the materials out of which vegetable and animal tissues are constructed. It is important to know both what these are and what are their sources."

That passage indicates the nature and scope of this very ably compiled little book, the concluding lines of which must also be quoted here, for the reason that not alone farmers, but also mankind at large, should be the better for the repetition of such words:—

"Society notes and punishes flagrant cases of abuse, but the average human conscience is not yet sufficiently tender toward [sic] man's treatment of his faithful servants [domestic animals]."

## BOTANICAL LITERATURE.

*Disease in Plants.* By H. Marshall Ward, Sc.D., F.R.S. (Macmillan & Co.)—This book is written in response to the requirements of gardeners and cultivators who are keenly interested in the maladies which affect their plants, but are not able to appreciate the details of the life-history of the various fungi to which so many of these maladies are due. For practical purposes they want to know no more than will enable them to avert disease, or combat it when it has shown itself. Prof. Ward accordingly lays great stress on the study of the plant as a living creature influenced for good or ill by the surroundings amid which it is placed. Much less importance is now attributed to the analysis of the ash of plants than was formerly the case. The ash is merely the dust that remains after cremation, and gives very little idea of the processes that are constantly going on in the living plant. Whilst thankfully accepting the information afforded by the chemist in the laboratory, physiologists and cultivators have come to see that questions put directly to the plants themselves in the experimental plot secure much more satisfactory replies than can be provided by the balance or the test-tube in the laboratory. Prof. Ward in the volume before us gives a useful summary showing the present state of vegetable physiology, and of knowledge as to the biology of the soil—not, of course, complete, but very instructive and, we may add, suggestive. This summary is drawn from the store of the specialist, and is very different from the production of a mere compiler. A similar remark may be made as to the generalities on the nature of disease which occupy other chapters. The chapter on the symptoms of disease is one which will attract the attention of cultivators, who commonly recognize disease as beginning at the root or in the leaves, as the case may be. "Something wrong at the root" is indeed a frequently used phrase; and this something wrong may be suffocation, or a fungus, or a nematoid worm, or a myxomycete, or a destructive insect. The cultivator needs to be told how to recognize the different appearances produced by these several disease-factors, and this knowledge is more fully afforded in the pages of the present volume than in any other that is known to us. As a treatise on vegetable pathology it will prove of the greatest value to the physiologist, and although we can hardly think the generality of cultivators are sufficiently advanced to be able to derive much benefit from it directly, indirectly they will do so through the medium of County Council lecturers and other teachers.

*Catalogue of the Mesozoic Plants in the Department of Geology, British Museum (Natural History).*—*The Jurassic Flora: 1. The Yorkshire Coast.* By A. C. Seward, F.R.S. (Printed by order of the Trustees.)—There is no reason to complain of the somewhat lengthy title to this work, seeing that it accurately indicates the nature of its contents and obviates the necessity for the reviewer to enter into any explanations. The Yorkshire coast has long been known to supply abundant material for the illustration of the flora of the oolitic strata. This material has been carefully investigated by the author in various museums, and is now catalogued and described in a manner convenient for reference and comparison. The systematic description is preceded by an introduction summarizing the history of the subject and giving comparative details of the corresponding floras in Europe, America, Asia, and Australia. In the present volume only the bryophytes, pteridophytes, and gymnosperms are considered. Students of fossil botany labour under great disadvantages in the imperfection of the material at their disposal, and consequently there is a tendency to give specific rank to mere varieties or even to mere stages of growth. Darwin is here quoted as having said in a letter to Lyell,

"How far to lump and split species is, indeed, a hopeless problem. It must in the end be determined by mere convenience." Asa Gray, we know, considered species as "judgments," and the paleo-phytologist is, as we have said, to a large extent devoid of the means of forming such judgments. Much must necessarily be conjectural, but the constant advance in our knowledge of the morphology and physiology of living plants increases the accuracy of the guesses made. A remarkable illustration of this is afforded by the recent discovery by the Japanese botanist Hirase of spiral antherozoids in the maidenhair tree, Ginkgo, formerly referred to Coniferae, but now considered to form a group intermediate between cycads and conifers. Mr. Seward's monograph is evidently most carefully executed, and it will be valuable to students for reference. The system of nomenclature he adopts is to our thinking objectionable, although no doubt he errs in good company. An illustration will best explain our meaning. At p. 177 the author mentions *Williamsonia*, a genus established by Carruthers in 1870, and then he proceeds to enumerate two species, one which he calls *Williamsonia gigas* (Lindley and Hutton), the other *Williamsonia pecten* (Phillips). Now Lindley and Hutton described the type of their species in 1835, and Phillips described his in 1829 (we take the dates from the book before us). It is obvious that neither of these authors could have known of Carruthers's genus, which only dates from 1870. It is equally obvious, therefore, that the author attributes to Lindley and Hutton and to Phillips the application of names they could not possibly have known anything about. Even if such a thing were possible, there is no evidence to show that they would approve of such a liberty being taken with their names. The fact that the names of the botanists in question are inserted between brackets by no means absolves the author of the present volume from the charge of a violation of botanical rules. Mr. Seward's book is, however, so important that its value will not be much impaired by the adoption of a controverted scheme of nomenclature.

*British Trees.* With Illustrations by the Hon. Stanhope Tollemahe. (Sampson Low & Co.)—A series of photographic illustrations of common trees of varying degrees of merit, but few of superlative excellence, and many of them inadequate and imperfectly characteristic. The lime avenue in Bushey Park is beautifully rendered, and a group of Scotch pines from Ham Common is also characteristic. In addition to native British trees, representations of conifers from various countries are given, taken from specimens growing at Kew and elsewhere. These are mostly commendable. The text is avowedly not of a scientific character, but we have a right to expect that the names shall be correctly spelt. "*Betulus*" is not the correct designation of the birch, nor is the "curious growth of matted twigs.....caused by a very minute gall, one of the genus *phytopus*." This is not correct enough even for popular consumption. Photo-lithographs of entire trees are rarely satisfactory, the details being blurred and indistinct. Photographic presentments of the bark, on the contrary, are often excellent, and would form most welcome additions to the present work. Opportunities for seeing specimen trees are unhappily diminishing rapidly, at any rate in the neighbourhood of towns. A series of illustrations, all to one scale as in the book before us, is therefore of increasing value as showing the "habit" and general appearance of full-grown trees when not mutilated by the saw, or distorted by overcrowding or any of the manifold accidents to which tree life is subject. We thoroughly sympathize with the author in his love of trees, and trust that the success of the present volume may induce him to produce a second and amended edition.

*Catalogue of the African Plants collected by Dr. F. Welwitsch.* Vol. II, Part 2. (Longmans & Co.)—This part contains the higher cryptogams, monographed by Mr. Carruthers; the mosses, which are numerous, by Mr. Gepp; the fresh-water algae, by Messrs. W. and G. S. West; the lichens, by M. Wainio; the fungi, by Miss Smith; and various minor groups by other botanists. A general index completes the volume, the whole forming a belated, but not unworthy tribute to the memory of a great botanist who met with but scanty reward in his lifetime. The numerous notes and comments, many made by Welwitsch himself, give these volumes a value beyond what a mere descriptive enumeration would have. The botanical department of the British Museum and the volunteers pressed into the service may be congratulated on the completion of an excellent piece of work.

*Cyclopaedia of American Horticulture.* Vol. III. By L. H. Bailey. (Macmillan & Co.)—The third volume, extending from the letter *N* to *Q*, has just been issued, and is characterized by the same excellent qualities as its predecessors. Though intended primarily for American use, it is so thorough that it will be found most valuable as a work of reference on horticulture in the Old as well as in the New World.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIES.

It will be within recollection that the first General Assembly of learned societies constituting the new Association of Academies was held at Paris a few months ago under the presidency of M. Darboux, the permanent secretary of the Académie des Sciences. The meeting of the Congress lasted, in fact, from Tuesday, April 16th, to Saturday, April 20th. M. Berthelot, M. Gaston Bossier, Sir Michael Foster, M. de Goeje, and Dr. Mommsen were nominated honorary presidents, and two honorary secretaries were chosen to conduct the daily business, namely, Prof. M. Moissan (Paris) and Prof. Gomperz (Vienna). There being actually two divisions in the Association, one of letters and one of science, each met independently to deal with matters before them, the General Assembly afterwards sitting in congress to affirm or otherwise act upon their decisions.

The inception of this International Association scarcely needs dilating upon here, since the facts of its early history are already pretty familiar. Suffice to say that the tentative efforts of the original "cartell," composed of the Academies of Leipzig, Göttingen, Munich, and Vienna, have resulted in the establishment of a powerful organization, which is destined, judging by the progress of events, to perform noteworthy services to civilization and science. M. Darboux has pointed out that those problems which lie within the range of activity exercised by the Association require common agreement and the reciprocity of nations, and no doubt, with the unmistakable authority born of international co-operation, the fulfilment of many long-deferred schemes will be brought about.

The delegates who attended the Congress represented eighteen constituent bodies, comprising the premier academies of the world, those of Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, Budapest, Christiania, Copenhagen, Göttingen, Leipzig, London, Munich, Paris, St. Petersburg, Rome, Stockholm, and Vienna. Washington, through the temporary indisposition of its delegate, was unrepresented.

An official report detailing the proceedings of the Congress in both the Literary and Scientific sections, and in the full Assembly, was lately printed in Paris, and distributed among the Academies, as well as to persons interested in the organization. In this *Compte Rendu* an account is given not only of the immediate decisions of the Association, but of the programme of the future, and considerable interest attaches thereto.

Under the rules of the Association the Paris Academy of Sciences assumed at this, the first General Assembly, the position of a directing academy for a triennial period, and by general consent M. Darboux opened the Congress and delivered a discourse which eloquently described the *motif* of the gathering.

At the meeting on the following day the idea of a scheme for the mutual loan of manuscripts of a scientific or literary character, at present in custody at scattered centres, was brought forward by the Berlin Academy of Sciences and discussed. It contemplated the transmission, under agreed conditions, of MSS. of international literary or scientific interest to accredited members of the Association specially qualified to study them, and the Governments of the various countries were to be approached, if necessary, to afford facilities for releasing such documents from the confinement of lock and key in order to secure the advantages that might accrue from their examination. The safeguards concerned in the granting of unique privileges of this kind were recapitulated, and the conditions of guardianship laid down. In the end the Assembly approved the proposals of the Academy and adopted a series of administrative regulations to govern the loans.

As an outcome of the scheme it was perhaps natural that a proposition should have been made to embrace in its scope scientific instruments and special objects deposited in collections. This, however, was referred, on the motion of M. Berthelot, to the consideration of the Academies of Berlin, Paris, and London.

On the occasion of the third meeting the delegates discussed a recommendation of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques to commence the preparation of a complete edition of the works of Leibnitz. Stress was laid upon the fact that no complete edition of the works of Leibnitz is available, and that while most of the great philosophers of the past two centuries had been accorded homage by means of collected issues of their works—among them, Descartes, Spinoza, and Kant—Leibnitz had received scant justice. In this connexion M. Louis Couturat, who has been working under French auspices in the Bibliothèque de Hanovre, points out that that institution contains a large number of inedited Leibnitz manuscripts, a veritable treasure trove of material of which the wealth remains to be revealed. Further, for the purposes of a satisfactory edition, *collaborateurs* of diverse studies will be requisite; it cannot be left to the mathematician alone, but the assistance of the physicist, the theologian, and man of affairs must also be invoked.

The Assembly resolved to undertake the task, the details and plan to be under the superintendence of the Academies of Science of Berlin and Paris, in conjunction with the body from whom the proposal emanated.

The Royal Society of London brought up in the Science Section an important proposal on lines suggested by Sir D. Gill, His Majesty's Astronomer at the Cape, for the extension of the geodetic arc in Africa, in continuation of current survey work in Rhodesia. It is gratifying to learn that the section expressed complete approval of the project, which was subsequently ratified by the General Assembly, the only point of doubt being the particular Governments to whom the decision should be notified and the mode of procedure. Finally, it was decided to communicate the resolution upon the subject to the English and German Governments, and to that of the Congo State.

The Royal Society's delegates reported to the Science Section the present condition of the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature, and Profs. van 't Hoff, Famintzin, and Mosso, on behalf respectively of Germany, Russia, and Italy, furnished particulars of the support that would be extended by those countries. M.

Darboux, as president of the section, tendered acknowledgments to the Royal Society, and earnest wishes for the successful launching of this undertaking.

Certain of the academies brought forward propositions for work which were referred to committees for consideration and report, and it is hoped that by the date of the next Assembly these will be in a sufficiently forward state for settlement. Among those dealt with and favourably entertained were (1) a project put forward by the Académie Royale des Sciences, Munich, for the publication of documents pertaining to Greece; (2) by the Academies of Leipzig, Munich, and Vienna for an encyclopedia of Mohammedanism; (3) a plan presented by the Académie des Sciences, Paris, relative to the registration of physiological apparatus, in respect of which M. Marey had supplied a report.

A proposal, supported by Dr. Mommsen, for the publication of a 'Corpus Nummorum' occasioned debate as to the utility of the enterprise in the face of works in course of publication, and ultimately the matter was postponed.

It remains to add that it was unanimously decided that the next triennial meeting of the General Assembly should be held in London in 1904, the Royal Society becoming the directing academy from the beginning of 1902 to that of 1905. Sir Archibald Geikie thanked the delegates for the compliment of their choice, and assured the Assembly of a hearty welcome.

#### Science Gossip.

THAT hardy publication *British Rainfall* for 1900 (Stanford) makes its appearance a little later than usual, owing to editorial changes. For the first time Dr. Hugh R. Mill's name appears upon the title-page, in conjunction with that of Mr. H. Sowerby Wallis. The former discusses the devastating flood which occurred at Ilkley and in its vicinity on July 12th, the result of a rainfall which in the most central area recorded from 4 in. to a little over 5 in. in the twenty-four hours. The water ran solid, as off a roof, and the somewhat ambiguous remark is added that the torrents which swept through the town could not be stemmed, in some cases even by horses. The calculation of the averages of the rainfall for the decade 1890-9 is still in hand, but the records are as yet incomplete. Last year was wetter than the average of the ten years 1880-9, more noticeable differences occurring in Scotland and Ireland than in England and Wales.

THE Executive Committee of the National Physical Laboratory has issued a handy pamphlet which sets forth, among other things, the verification tests in force at Kew Observatory for various kinds of scientific apparatus, as well as the rules for granting certificates of efficiency. It will no doubt prove useful to instrument makers and others. Tests are now applied, it appears, on the accuracy of the graduations of the Babcock milk-testing apparatus, a new feature in the work of the laboratory. Certificates are not issued for this class, but each piece of apparatus that passes the test is marked with an official stamp. An extension of testing operations will take place shortly, when the new laboratory at Bushey House is finished, so that it may embrace all kinds of glass-measuring chemical apparatus.

A PROVISIONAL programme of the Fifth International Congress of Physiologists, which will be held at Turin, September 17th to 21st, has been issued. Among the physiologists who will attend from this country we notice the name of Sir Michael Foster, M.P.

THE Report of the Director (Prof. C. Michie Smith) of the Kodaikanal and Madras Observatories for 1900-1 has been received. The buildings of the former advanced very slowly during the first nine months of 1900, and even



yet are far from completed, so that astronomical work in the new establishment is still in a provisional state. The transit-room is not finished, but the two equatorials are in working order; the spectrograph was, at the date of the Report, completed, but not in perfect adjustment. At the Madras Observatory the operations are under the immediate superintendence of Prof. R. L. Jones, Deputy-Director; the astronomical consist entirely of those necessary for the time service. With regard to the meteorological the following particulars may be of general interest. The rainfall at Madras in 1900 was below the average in all months except April and September, and the deficiency for the whole year was 20.09 inches, the total amount being 28.93 inches; the heaviest fall on one day was 2.92 inches, which was on the 23rd of October. The mean temperature was above the average for every month except April, when it was just equal to the average (84° 0'); the highest shade temperature was 109° 8 on the 3rd of June, and the lowest 62° 2 on the 2nd of January.

The death is announced, in his seventy-third year, of Dr. Adolf Fick, the distinguished Professor of Physiology at the University of Würzburg, and author of a number of works on physiology, one of which, the 'Kompendium der Physiologie des Menschen mit Einschluss der Entwicklungsgeschichte,' has enjoyed extensive circulation.

The publication of the elementary text-book of zoology which has been prepared for the "Cambridge Natural Science Series" by Mr. A. E. Shipley, of Cambridge, and Prof. MacBride, of McGill University, has been postponed until September 23rd.

RECENT Parliamentary Papers include the Astronomer Royal's Reports on Greenwich (2d.) and on the Cape of Good Hope Observatory (3d.).

## FINE ARTS

*Animal Painters of England from the Year 1650.* By Sir W. Gilbey, Bart. 2 vols. Illustrated. (Vinton & Co.)

THIS is neither a history of animal painting in this country nor a complete dictionary, still less is it a digest of the subject. It is simply a collection of biographies of selected painters of quadrupeds, mostly horses and dogs, the latter considered as accessories to the stable and companions in the hunting field, with still fewer birds added. Its considerable merits are chiefly due to Sir Walter Gilbey's sympathy with horses, their attendants, and those whose privilege it was to own them. There is, in fact, much that is acceptable in the book, its lists of works and the anecdotes of the painters in which it abounds, as well as the numerous portraits and reproductions of old-fashioned pictures and prints of celebrated stables and hunting grounds. Still it must be said that, even as a mere collection of biographies, 'Animal Painters of England' leaves much to be desired. The memoirs are arranged in alphabetical order; thus "Alken, Henry," born in 1784, comes before "Barlow, Francis," born c. 1628; and Henry Barraud, though he joined the majority as late as 1874, occurs long before H. B. Chalon and Edwin Landseer. In technical respects the book is so far behind the times that the researches of Mr. Murybridge and others who have added a great deal to our knowledge of the movements of animals, and of horses especi-

ally, have not, so far as we have discovered, received the least recognition. Yet the services rendered by Stubbs in his 'Anatomy of the Horse' and its admirable plates are duly and repeatedly recognized. Again, although our author makes much of Stubbs, his notice of that capital painter comprises the name only of his masterpiece, the portrait of Whistlejacket, a picture which gives its title to the grand drawing-room at Wentworth Woodhouse. Whoever has not seen this superb piece is not in a position to form an adequate opinion of Stubbs, for as an animal painter he is to be classed far above the crowd of mediocrities to whose careers and works four-fifths of these volumes are devoted. The greater part of the space assigned to these small fry should have been occupied by fresh matter concerning artists of importance. 'Animal Painters,' while confessedly much indebted to the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' sets forth, with charming simplicity and some ingratitude, one of its errors, for it seems not to be true that Henry Alken was originally a huntsman, stud groom, or trainer to the Duke of Beaufort of his time. At any rate, the inquiries of the present Duke at Badminton have failed to discover any indication that Alken was thus employed at that famous hunting seat, and Sir W. Gilbey suggests that from Alken's own book on the 'Figure of the Horse' it is extremely improbable the writer thereof could have been employed in a menial capacity. But although he has corrected the 'Dictionary' on this point our author is unlucky with the Alkens, for he says that Henry exhibited at the Academy in 1801 a single miniature 'Portrait of Miss Gubbins,' which was presumably the likeness of a mare, or, if not so, not a work of the animal painter in question. Sir Walter adds acutely enough, Henry Alken "had the strongest objection to criticism of his works, and for this reason refused to exhibit his pictures, much to the sorrow of his relatives." This was a pity, because the sporting and coaching painter was really possessed of considerable ability such as ensured for not a few of his works the honour of engraving by Engleheart and others.

The biography of Landseer, which ought to have been the best in the collection, is by no means so good as it should be, and is confessedly founded on the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' rather than upon original materials. All the while there is an authoritative biography of Edwin Landseer, full of cuts, which has gone through three editions, and gets scanty and but scurvy mention here. For example, Sir Walter states that Edwin Landseer was born at "33, Foley Street, then known as 71, Queen Anne Street, East," but Mrs. Mackenzie (Landseer's sister) declares that his birth and that of his brothers occurred in a house "at the bend of Foley Street, not far from Portland Street." Edwin was the fourth of the seven children of John Landseer, the engraver, who, according to the Academy catalogue of 1792 and the catalogue of the Society of Artists of Great Britain, 1791, then lived at No. 83, Queen Anne Street, East. Now Mrs. Mackenzie has told us that before her father's marriage to Miss Potts

(who sat to Sir Joshua Reynolds in 'The Gleaners') he had lived in a smaller house nearer Cleveland Street than that in which his sons were born. We hear of only two houses occupied by John Landseer in the street; indeed, it is unlikely that he occupied three. If the sons were all born in the same house, we are compelled to think that No. 83, where John Landseer lived in 1792, was the birthplace of his son Edwin (who was born, it is said, in March, 1802), and not No. 33, where, according to the 'Annals of the Fine Arts,' 1816, and the Academy catalogue of 1815, the engraver and his son Edwin were then residing. Among the children of John Landseer mentioned in this book is Charles, who, it is stated, "devoted himself to landscape painting." This is a mistake, for the artist, who eventually became an Academician and Keeper, exhibited more than a hundred pictures, nearly all of them historical and anecdotic. It was Henry Landseer (after whom Edwin had his second name Henry) who was a landscape painter. Mrs. Mackenzie, a much better artist than Jessica her sister (who receives honourable mention here), is not named by Sir W. Gilbey, though till her marriage she was Edwin's housekeeper and constant companion. Jessica, according to her own account of herself, contributed to the Academy Exhibition of 1816, when she was only six years of age; but this we do not believe, though it is true that her brother Edwin was represented at Somerset House in 1815 by two works, he being then only thirteen years of age, and the catalogue describing him as "Master E. Landseer." Oddly enough, there was testimony to the impression Edwin had then already made in a work hanging close by, 'The Cricketer: a portrait of Master E. Landseer,' by Master J. Hayter, another youth who became famous in his way. 'The Cricketer,' we may add, has been engraved. Sir Walter hardly does justice to Edwin's extraordinary skill as an etcher and as an ambidextrous draughtsman, drawing with both hands simultaneously. It is quite wrong to say that "till Edwin Landseer reached the age of twenty-two or twenty-three the singularly early development of his genius remained unrealized, save by his own friends and in artistic circles." And Sir Walter should have inquired of an artist before he wrote: "Until well on in the present century [the nineteenth] artists always mixed their own colours, the convenient system of preparing pigments in tubes ready for use not having been discovered." It was about 1846 that tubes for holding pigments came into vogue, but so long ago as Lely's time, if not long before, pigments were tied up in bladders and sold ready for use, as indeed certain pigments are still tied up and sold. In speaking of the great services of Thomas Landseer to his brother Edwin, Sir Walter does not exceed the truth, but it is evident that he is ignorant of the fact that all his plates were submitted to Edwin, who was accustomed to dictate the most comprehensive alterations while they were in progress, involving labour so considerable that "old Tom" would "actually cry" over his altered work.

The account of George Stubbs is marked by similar merits and demerits to those ex-

hibited in the case of the better-known artist. A manifest misprint gives the date of the founding of the Incorporated Society of Artists as 1859. The Society of Artists (afterwards incorporated) separated in 1761 from the body (afterwards called the Free Society) which opened the first exhibition of the kind in London at the Society of Arts' Room in 1760. The Free Society continued till 1783, and then succumbed. The Incorporated Society collapsed in 1791, and not, as Sir Walter Gilbey says, in 1774. Nor is he right in telling his readers that George Stubbs exhibited fifty pictures with the Incorporated Society; the number should be sixty. Stubbs contributed fifty-three pictures to the Academy and eight to the British Institution. The report is all wrong that "some of his finest lion and tiger pictures were first publicly shown in the Somerset Street Rooms, where the exhibitions were held in 1764 and afterwards." Stubbs lived and died in Somerset Street, Portman Square, and many of his pictures were on view there, but did not constitute an exhibition proper. Perhaps the Somerset House Rooms, *i.e.*, those of the Royal Academy, were in the writer's memory confused with Stubbs's own studios.

Sir W. Gilbey often quotes contemporary criticisms on his painters and their pictures aptly enough, therefore it is rather strange that he has omitted the testimonies of "Peter Pindar" in 'A Lyric Ode' of 1782, in which "Peter praiseth Mr. Stubbs":—

Well pleas'd thy horses, Stubbs, I view,  
And eke thy dogs, to nature true;  
Let modern artists match thee, if they can;  
Such animals thy genius suit—  
Then stick, I beg thee, to the brute,  
And meddle not with woman, nor with man.

'Tis said that naught so much the temper rubs  
Of that ingenious artist, Mr. Stubbs,  
As calling him a horse painter—how strange,  
That Stubbs the title should desire to change.

#### ARCHITECTURAL LITERATURE.

*The Abbey of Pershore.* By F. B. Andrews. (Pershore, Fearnside & Martin.)—The date of the foundation of the historic abbey of Pershore is about 680, and it is consequently about the earliest of the monastic houses of Worcestershire. The founder was Oswald, nephew of Ethelred I., King of Mercia. He instituted at Pershore a house for secular or missionary clergy, which was re-established and restored by his descendant Oddo, who died in 1056. Of Oddo the 'Anglo-Saxon Chronicle' says that "he was ordained monk before his end, a good man and pure and very noble." It is pleasant to note that Mr. Andrews supports Prof. Freeman's view that parts of the existing work of the south transept, which are the earliest now remaining, are to be attributed to Earl Oddo. The abbey was at one time extremely wealthy, and owned in the tenth century 335 manors and other properties. But these possessions were much reduced both by the Confessor and the Conqueror, who largely endowed the abbey of Westminster, the church of their coronation, at the expense of the provincial religious houses. Though the monastery was at first instituted as the headquarters of the mission clergy of the district, it came into the hands of the Benedictines in the latter part of the tenth century through the influence of Archbishop Dunstan. In 1102 the rebuilding of the abbey was completed after a disastrous fire. The Norman work still to be noted in the transept and crossing of the present abbey church is of this date. Mr. Andrews considers

that the same school of masons who had just completed their work at Gloucester, and who were in the midst of their labours at Tewkesbury, were employed at Pershore. On St. Alban's Day, 1223, the eastern arm of the church was almost entirely destroyed by fire. The monks at once set about a scheme of rebuilding on a magnificent scale in the then fashionable new style, commonly known as Early English. The new work was consecrated by Cantelupe, Bishop of Worcester, in 1239; it is represented in the quire arcade and superstructure, and

"exhibits a specimen of considerable rarity and beauty, so much so, that no example at all comparable to it exists in the county, nor is one to be easily produced elsewhere that will better exhibit the detail of the period."

Another most disastrous fire broke out in 1288. Originating in the bakehouse, it spread rapidly to the adjacent conventual buildings, and at last reached the central tower and the church, where it did much damage. At the same time forty houses of the town which had sprung up around the monastery were destroyed. It was a long time before the great central tower was repaired. Several years after the fire it is described as being still in ruins; but about 1335 a superstructure was raised to the height of some 60 feet above the lofty Norman arches. This lantern work is richly panelled and traceried, and is of singularly beautiful design. It is well illustrated and described by Mr. Andrews, who agrees with Sir Gilbert Scott and the Rev. Mackenzie Walcott in the confident surmise that the same architect or builders designed the tower of Pershore and the upper part of the central tower of Salisbury.

The conventual buildings have almost entirely disappeared, as well as the nave of the church; but the central tower, south transept, and quire form a most noble fragment of what must once have been a glorious architectural pile. Mr. Andrews, who has evidently paid long and loving attention to this building, supplies in these pages an excellent and critical account of the fabric, its monuments, tiles, and other remains. The illustrations, technical and otherwise, are valuable, and ought to be appreciated both by architects and by average readers who are interested in ecclesiology. We could have wished that the letterpress had been increased, so as to supply a fuller account of the documents that are still extant relative to this monastery. All that, however, which is given seems accurate and shows a certain amount of research. Considerable care has evidently been taken to make the list of abbots from 984 to 1527 as complete as possible. There is an extensive chaturary in the Public Record Office, and other MSS. in the British Museum. Among the latter are the depositions of the prior and others before a commission which was held on the monastic rights, owing to most of their evidences having perished in a fire. The more important part of these depositions is printed in an English dress in the appendix. One of the few signs of careless editing that we have noticed is that Mr. Andrews leaves it doubtful whether this commission was held after the fire of 1223 or that of 1288. If Mr. Andrews is not himself an expert in mediæval writing, he could readily have found some one among the courteous assistants at the British Museum who would at once have been able to distinguish between writing of the beginning of Henry III.'s reign or temp. Edward I. On this occasion Prior Walter stated that the monastery of Pershore enjoyed certain privileges granted them by the Pope; that the grant was burnt in the late fire, but that there was one copy remaining. He also testified that Abbot Gervase had successfully claimed the place in synod at the bishop's right hand. Gervase was abbot from 1204 to 1234, so that in all probability the date of this document is 1223. Fifteen other witnesses gave evidence, eight of whom

were monks of the house. It might have been well to give all this evidence in extenso. The rights of sepulture claimed by the abbey were extensive: all those who held land in the town of Pershore and thirty-three of the adjacent villages had to be interred in the general burying-ground of the abbey. This interesting list of dependent villages probably shows the extent of the original missionary district. Those who did not enjoy lands were to be buried in the churchyard of Little Comberton. The bodies of the deceased were first to be carried to the chapel to which they used to belong, and mass was to be said there for their souls. The principal legacy was carried before the body of the deceased into the church of Pershore, and there valued by the sacrist and the chaplain of the place to which the deceased belonged. The value was to be divided between the sacrist and chaplain.

Among incidental details here recorded may be mentioned an incident that affected Abbot William de Newnton. In 1427 one John Lockyer was found guilty of defaming the abbot. His penance was severe: he was condemned to be whipped three times round the market-place of Worcester on market day, and as many times round the parish church of Pershore (which was the nave of the abbey church) on Sunday, clad only in his shirt and drawers, and to carry a taper of 6 lb. weight in his hand, which he was to offer after the reading of the Gospel.

*Pilgrimages in Cheshire and Shropshire.* By Fletcher Moss. (Didsbury, published by the Author.)—Undoubtedly the best part of this handsome volume is its illustrations. There are about seventy full-page pictures, and nearly as many incorporated in the text. They are almost entirely taken from photographs by Mr. James Watts, a friend and fellow-pilgrim of the author. Mr. Watts has been most successful in the reproduction of the effective and picturesque black-and-white work for which the old houses of Cheshire and some parts of Shropshire are celebrated, such as Speke Hall, Kenyon Peel, the old vicarage, Prestbury, and the halls of Adlington, Marton, and Welltrough. The half-timbered church of St. Oswald, Nether Peover, was also well worth careful illustration. Occasionally there is a true picture, such as that of Tabley Hall and Mere; but Mr. Watts is not always clever in his treatment of churches or their details, the famous effigies at Tong Church being produced after a patchwork fashion. A fine picture of the crag on which Beeston Castle stands, so well known to travellers on the railway between Crewe and Chester, forms a good frontispiece to the volume, but there is not much to be learnt from the letterpress. Mr. Moss is a pilgrim who delights in telling you what he and his companion ate and drank, especially on historic sites. All the morning they had been yearning to take their midday meal on Beeston's castled crag:—

"On the very top of the rock there is a famous well, but the attendant says we cannot draw the water, and it is bad, and there is none, and he sells aerated waters. The gassy aerated waters remind me of one of the dark questions in Job: 'Why should a wise man fill his belly with the east wind?' X says that all his doctors strongly recommend them, and he enjoys them with cheese and parkin, leaving his half loaf of bread on the rocks."

This sort of thing is all very well in its way, and the paragraph just cited is not destitute of a kind of humour. It is, however, distinctly wearisome to have these modern pilgrims continually contrasting their respective appetites and tastes, and giving would-be funny details as to their difficulties in obtaining sufficient supplies of such innocent requirements as tea, milk, soda-water, marmalade, or bacon. A continuous straining after humour of a somewhat broad character, arising out of

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incidents common to all rambles, is a distinct blemish right through the text. This is a pity, for it is easy to see that Mr. Moss and his companion really enjoyed their visits to old halls, castles, and churches, and seem anxious that the crowd of Lancashire cyclists should make a good use of their holidays on wheels. Nevertheless, those who are ready to spend half a guinea on such a book as this (and in many ways it is well worth the price) will surely weary over the semi-comic and sometimes semi-vulgar passages, and will probably wish for a little more serious writing. No doubt many a cyclist or other pilgrim to the charming parts of Cheshire and Shropshire here treated of can learn much that is interesting from these pages; but it is to be regretted that Mr. Moss has not used some of his abilities for mastering the elements of archaeology and ecclesiology, with which he is bound in some measure to deal in a volume like the present. Antiquarian knowledge is becoming so much more accurate and general nowadays, that the popular topographical writer has no business to attempt to fill the rôle of instructor and describer unless he has first gone to school in such subjects himself. Geology and botany, ornithology and marine zoology, are all capable of popular and most interesting treatment as affecting different localities; but the writer in such cases must in the first instance have a genuine knowledge of these special sciences. Why should it be otherwise with archaeology or ecclesiology? As it is, any one who can photograph well, or has a clever photographer as his friend, and has a gift of ready writing, seems to think himself quite competent to turn out pretentious volumes of church and manor gossip.

Mr. Moss is certainly no antiquary. The remarkable church of Tong, that has been several times worthily described, particularly with great accuracy and care by Mr. Crancock, occupies six of his pages. About half the number is taken up in describing a cycle upset, the author being mistaken for a sexton, and the securing of "two live boys who were tolling the passing bell, for even here people sometimes die, who promised to miss one toll and neither wriggle nor wink while I timed them for two minutes." The result of this last exploit is the spoiling of a plate of the tomb of Sir Richard and Lady Benedicta Vernon by the introduction of two big ugly modern heads. A door near the altar has three round holes. Mr. Moss terms it a lepers' door, "through which the poor outcast lepers might watch the celebration of the sacrament, a forcible reminder of other times and other manners." The baseless legend of lepers' windows is hard to eradicate, but this is a specially bad case, for the door in question, of which a photograph is given, is of late fifteenth-century date, when there were hardly any lepers left in England and the leper-houses were being put to other uses. Moreover, an English leper was strictly forbidden access to churchyard as well as church, and was well supplied with chapels and priests of his own.

In Malpas Church is a fine and fairly well-known example of a thirteenth-century parish church chest for church valuables. The hinges and other ironwork of a flowing pattern are most graceful. It is here called twelfth-century, and is absurdly labelled as "Peter's Pence Chest." The font at Hodner is described as "possibly Saxon," a conjecture instantly disproved by a glance at the accompanying photograph. At Haughmond Abbey "a Norman grave six centuries old, with ancient crosses and archaic letters," is noticed. It is not generally supposed that the Norman style lasted till circa 1300! Then follows a copy of the Norman-French inscription of the usual style, of which scores of examples are extant. Mr. Moss, however, seems to think it something extraordinary to find an inscription "in the language

of the conquerors." Several other instances of a like lack of a modicum of antiquarian learning might be noticed, but these must suffice.

Certain of Mr. Moss's modern philippics are much out of place, whether they reflect the reader's mind or not, such as references to "rabid Tories" and the Boer war; but with one strong and prolonged remonstrance we are heartily in accord. Mr. Moss found a certain beautiful Cheshire church (which shall here be nameless), in a beautiful situation, not only locked, but the churchyard surrounded with high spiked palings, and a notice displayed that no one would be admitted without the sanction of the rector and churchwardens. The pilgrim proceeded to the adjoining rectory, but found the gate locked and a big notice, "Private grounds. Trespassers will be prosecuted." Repeated rings at the bell produced no result, though there was obviously some one inside the house. At last a stable-boy gave the information that the rector was in the house, but "when 'e's lock'd 'issel in 'e wunner come out." To the question if there were no maidservants to answer the bell, the reply was, "E wunner let 'em." The pilgrim righteously lashes this surly incumbent, and punishes him by camera as well as pen, for a full-page illustration is given of the locked gate of the substantial-looking rectory of this village shepherd, with the notice to trespassers prominently reproduced.

#### ROMAN REMAINS AT INCHTUTHILL.

INCHTUTHILL is about ten miles north of Perth, near the mansion of Delvine and on the estate of Sir Alex. Muir McKenzie. In itself it is a small, steep-sided plateau, about a mile long in its greatest extent. The Tay passes a little distance to the south of it, and in former times almost entirely surrounded it. Three or four miles to the east the Tay and Isla meet, and with them meet also the two chief natural routes from Northern Scotland to Perth: the route along the Tay, now followed by the Highland Railway; and the easier and more important route to Aberdeen, now followed by the Caledonian line. Alike strategically and tactically Inchtuthill is, therefore, well suited to military occupation, and General Roy in the eighteenth century thought to detect here a Roman encampment. During this summer the Scottish Society of Antiquaries has excavated parts of the site and confirmed its Roman character. The funds and superintendence needful to the work have been largely supplied by the Hon. John Abercromby.

The Roman encampment stands near the east of the plateau. It is a nearly square rectangle of some forty-five acres, surrounded by a still visible earthen rampart and ditch. The line of an ancient road can be seen approaching it obliquely from the north-west. Indications of wooden buildings, a few fragments of Roman pottery, and a "Second brass" coin, almost unworn, but badly weathered—probably an early Domitian—have been found within it. Four kilns or ovens have also been found built in the thickness of the south-east ramparts, but they open oddly outwards on to the ditch. Outside the camp on the south-east are vestiges of stone and wooden buildings, some of which may belong to cottages which occupied the site in Roy's time, while the evidence of Roman relics scattered about the foundations suggests that some may be Roman. Certainly Roman is a stone bath-house, about 40 ft. by 130 ft. in area, precisely similar to the bath-houses found so often outside small Roman permanent forts. No trace of such a small fort has, however, been detected at Inchtuthill, and indeed the Roman relics found, whether inside or outside the camp, are too few and insignificant to suggest a necessarily long occupation. Besides the remains mentioned, there are traces of earthworks which may or may not be Roman on the east side of the plateau, and in other parts of it

two tumuli and a strongly trenched earthwork which seem not to be Roman.

The discovery does not stand alone. It belongs to a series of explorations which the Scottish Society of Antiquaries has, in most excellent fashion, carried out on Roman sites in Scotland during the last few years. These explorations have hardly attracted due attention in the South. Their results are already noteworthy. Seven years ago one might have described Roman Scotland as comprising the Wall of Pius from Forth to Clyde, an outpost fort twenty miles north of it at Ardoch, a road with forts connecting the Wall of Pius with Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland, and a fort at Birrens which resembles an outpost of this latter wall. This brief list completed the total of ascertained sites; there were others conjectured to be Roman, but not proven. The Scottish antiquaries have explored Birrens and much of Ardoch, and have enlarged the list of proven sites by a small permanent fort at Lyne, near Peebles; a couple of small forts close together at Camelon, near Falkirk; some watch-towers (?) along a Roman road north of Ardoch; and finally the large encampment at Inchtuthill. Attention has also been directed to some other sites which had been conjecturally called Roman, but which previously seemed to lie outside the Roman area—Strageth, for example, near Muthill, and Carpow, near Abernethy—and it is becoming highly probable that these also were once occupied by Roman troops.

We have now to interpret historically these additions to our knowledge. It is, of course, too soon to do this definitively; it is by no means too soon to make an effort. To what date or dates, then, shall we assign these various remains? Our literary sources show three periods of Roman activity in the North: Agricola (80-84 A.D.), Pius (140 A.D., with a sequel of wars), and Septimius Severus (208 A.D.). Of Agricola and Severus we have no definite evidence outside our books—neither inscriptions nor conclusive coins. Coins of Severus, indeed, hardly occur at all north of the Tweed. Of Pius we have the Wall, while coins found at Ardoch suggest that that small fort was probably held in his and his successor's reign. Shall we now ascribe Inchtuthill to Agricola? The one coin seems to suit. The camp is declared by its size to be legionary, and the stone bath-house, however permanent in appearance, may have been constructed for a comparatively short occupation: a bath-house, indeed, must be of stone, even if it is meant only for one or two years' use. We might well feel inclined to connect Inchtuthill with Agricola's Scottish campaigns. But we cannot call this more than a reasonable guess, and for other sites in Scotland we can hardly even guess with reason. We need, in the first place, more evidence. No fort on the Wall of Pius has ever yet been excavated, and till this is done historical inquiry must remain half helpless. Other sites also north of the Wall await the spade. We need, secondly, a special examination of the evidence. Most of it consists of pottery: we must follow the example of foreign archaeologists, and obtain some clues for dating that. The investigation will be delicate and difficult; it will be a minute survey of minutely recorded trifles. Sometimes it will lead to no clear results, but at the end I think the Scottish antiquaries, continuing and extending their excellent work, will be able to solve the problems, or at least a large part of the problems, of the brief Roman period in the history of their land.

F. HAVERFIELD.

*Fine-Art Gossip.*

MR. HOOK, who is in excellent health and painting with characteristic energy, has made much progress with four new coast pictures. He has, of course, found their subjects in the west of England. One or more of them will be at the Academy next year.

MR. MORTIMER MENFES, whose long-projected book on Japan will shortly be published, has gone to Palestine, pencil and paint-brush in hand.

THE Rev. Edward L. Cutts, who died on Tuesday at Trinity Vicarage, Haverstock Hill, in his seventy-eighth year, was well known as an antiquary ever since he published, the year after taking his degree, a 'Manual of Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses,' an excellent book for so young a man, especially when we consider how little had been hitherto done for the subject. 'Early Christian Art' appeared in 1892. He also made some figure as an ecclesiastical historian, publishing 'Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages,' 'Turning-Points of English Church History,' 'Turning-Points of General Church History,' 'A Dictionary of the Church of England,' and 'Parish Priests and their People in the Middle Ages.' He contributed a volume on Colchester to the "Historic Towns" series.

THE publication of the famous Hunterian coin collection now in the University of Glasgow is, we are glad to learn, making good progress. The second volume of the catalogue, dealing with the Greek coins and completing Asia Minor, will be issued shortly by Messrs. MacLehose. It has been written by Mr. George Macdonald, who so ably prepared the previous volume, and Mr. James Stevenson of Hailie has once more generously undertaken to bear the costs of publication.

THE press view of the Thirty-first Autumn Exhibition of Pictures and Sculpture in the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool is fixed for Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday next, and the private view for Saturday.

It is reported—we hope incorrectly—that Dryden's house in Gerard Street, Soho, which since his death has remained substantially intact, is to be partly pulled down and rebuilt.

MR. PETER COOPER's notices of nimb and aureoles in pictures, to which we referred last week, will not, we understand, be published immediately. Although he has collected several hundreds of examples in various countries, he intends to enlarge the field of his researches so as to take into consideration specimens of Orientalized art from Sicily and Venice.

FROM Paris comes intelligence of the decease of M. Georges Lehmann, the portrait painter, a native of Moscow trained in France, who obtained a Medal of Honour in 1879 and a Gold Medal at the Exhibition of 1889.

M. D'ANTHOINE, the historical painter, has died at the age of eighty-nine. He also wrote plays, and brought out two at the Odéon.

THE recent acquisitions of the Paris museums include some important articles. The Musée de l'Armée has acquired a very large strong-box of artistically forged ironwork; for two centuries and a half this has been carefully preserved in the "maréchaussée" of Artois. It dates from the seventeenth century. The Musée Carnavalet has become possessed of a portrait said to represent Rabelais, as well as two portraits by Damoustier, and one of Prince de Lusignan by Rigaud.

**MUSIC****BELLINI.**

ON the 23rd of this month occurs the sixty-sixth anniversary of the death, and on November 1st the hundredth anniversary of the

birth, of a composer who enjoyed fame for a season, but whose works are now wellnigh forgotten. We read about Beethoven spending years over his 'Missa Solennis' and 'Choral' Symphony, and about Wagner, who for a quarter of a century was more or less occupied with his 'Ring'; but Bellini's art career only lasted ten brief years. His first opera, 'Adelson e Salvini,' was produced at Milan in 1825, the composer being twenty-four years of age, and his last, 'I Puritani,' at Paris in 1835, the year in which he died. Ten operas in ten years, and most of them stillborn! One thing which deserves note is the tenacity with which the composer clung to one librettist. Tottola wrote his first book, and Count Pepoli his last; all the other libretti were from the pen of Romani, the Italian Scribe of his day, who besides Bellini also wrote for Donizetti, Rossini, Meyerbeer, and Pacini. Bellini was dissatisfied with the text of 'Beatrice di Tenda,' his last opera but one, and therefore did not ask Romani to prepare another book. Yet when in London, in 1833, he remarked, "I see now that if I wrote again for Italy I could not do so without Romani. All others are cold, insipid, without nerve or passion."

'Norma,' produced at Milan in 1831, is generally regarded as Bellini's best work. The composer was of that opinion, and so also was Richard Wagner. The former wrote to his friend Florimo, immediately after the first performance, "I have just come from 'Norma.' Can you believe it? Fiasco, fiasco! solennel fiasco!" But later on in the same letter:—

"I appeal against this popular verdict, and if there is a change of opinion, I shall have won my case, and I will then proclaim 'Norma' as the best of my operas; if not, I will resign myself to my sad fate, and by way of consolation, will say, 'Did not the Romans hiss 'L'Olympiade' of the divine Pergolesi?'"

Wagner's praise of 'Norma,' which work he selected for his own benefit when Capellmeister at Riga, is too well known to need repeating.

Bellini worked slowly and carefully. We read of Beethoven touching and retouching his works until he was satisfied, and in like manner we read how "Casta diva," which one would think must have come to Bellini as a sudden inspiration, was attempted eight times before he was satisfied with it.

Bellini's orchestration has often been ridiculed, and attempts have even been made to improve it; but Cherubini's dictum deserves note: "A quelle melodie, quella è l'instrumentazione." One or two of Bellini's wise sayings may be here recorded. To his method of composing he has thus referred in a letter: "When the libretto is completed I attentively study the characters of the personages, the passions by which they are swayed, and the sentiments which they express." In speaking of the discussions between the master and poet concerning the book for the 'Puritani,' Antonino Amore, his latest biographer, tells us that Bellini esteemed it "cosa più difficile dello stesso creare musica." And then there is the composer's brief yet forcible utterance, "Datemi buoni versi, ed io vi darò buona musica."

Little notice appears to have been taken of Bellini when he visited London in 1833. He was present at the performance of 'La Sonnambula,' at Drury Lane, on May 1st, 1833, when that work was produced for the first time with English words, while two days previously he is mentioned by the *Morning Chronicle* as having been among the audience at the King's Theatre on Saturday, April 27th, when 'La Cenerentola' was performed; there were also present on that occasion—on which the "divine" Taglioni made first appearances—Pasta, Malibran and her husband, De Beriot, Hummel, Mendelssohn, Paganini, Herz, Madame Schroeder-Devrient, and Vaccaj, the composer, whose tomb scene in his opera of 'Giulietta e Romeo' was usually given in place of the

ending of Bellini's 'I Capuletti e Montecchi' when that work was performed. It was Malibran who first proposed a substitute which strengthened to some extent an opera which of itself left much to desire. The date of this performance disposes of the statement of Antonino Amore to the effect that the composer arrived in London "verso la fine del maggio '33." His biographers Amore, Pougin, and others would also seem to be in error as regards the date of his departure, which they assign to the end of 1833 or beginning of 1834. According to the *Globe* of July 22nd, 1833, Bellini was to leave London immediately after the performance of 'I Capuletti' given at the King's Theatre on July 20th. There is, however, proof that Bellini was still in London in September. So far as we are aware, there is no mention in the biographies of any marriage. The *Gentleman's Magazine* for October, 1841, has, however, the following under 'Obituary': "In Shakspeare's walk, Shadwell, aged 35, Mrs. Eliza Bingham, wife of a gentleman connected with the Customs, and widow of Bellini, the eminent composer."

*Musical Gossip.*

THE programmes of music submitted at the Promenade Concerts at Queen's Hall have not been lacking in interest. By an arrangement that must be welcome to all students of music who desire to trace the gradual development of a great composer's powers, the nine symphonies of Beethoven are to be performed during the season in chronological order. No. 1, in C, first heard in 1800 at Vienna at a concert given by the composer, was played at the Beethoven concert on Friday of last week, when the band, under the direction of Mr. Henry Wood, took much pains over their task, offering specially careful and attractive renderings of the charming Andante cantabile and Minuet movements. Praiseworthy, too, in every respect were the performances of the 'Egmont' Overture and the always welcome 'Leonora,' No. 3.

DR. COWEN's dainty overture 'The Butterfly's Ball,' in which the composer makes effective use of the old melody 'I'd be a Butterfly,' was played with the needful delicacy and refinement last Saturday evening, when the programme also included the Overture to 'Tannhäuser' and two of the most familiar of Mendelssohn's 'Songs without Words'—the 'Spinnlied' and 'Frühlingslied'—neatly orchestrated by Guiraud. Herr Wilhelm Backhaus, a young German pianist who is rapidly coming to the front, played Brahms's variations on a theme of Paganini with strong and sure technical command and remarkable clearness.

IN the Wagner programme put forward last Monday evening stood the 'Faust' Overture, the Overture to 'The Flying Dutchman,' the original version of the introduction to the third act of 'Tannhäuser,' and Klingsor's Magic Garden and the 'Flower Maidens' Chorus— as arranged by Steinbach for concert use—from the second act of 'Parsifal.' Madame Kirkby Lunn gave expressive renderings of 'Im Treibhaus' and 'Schmerzen,' and Mr. Thomas Meux sang Wolfram's aria in the Tournament of Song from 'Tannhäuser.'

AN impressive performance of Beethoven's 'Coriolan' Overture was given last Tuesday evening, the list of pieces comprising also Herr Weingartner's orchestral arrangement of Weber's 'Invitation à la Valse,' which presents an ingenious combination of the two principal melodies, and the second suite of airs from Gluck's operas arranged in groups and orchestrated by Herr Felix Mottl. Herr Backhaus played the solo passages in Grieg's Piano Concerto with fluency and refinement of style, and the vocalists were Miss Florence Schmidt and Mr. Samuel Masters, the tenor interpretation of 'Onaway, awake, Beloved.'



from Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha,' being, however, deficient in charm, and his delivery lacking in smoothness.

BACH'S Concerto, No. 2, in c major, for two pianofortes (claviers) and orchestra, was revived last Wednesday evening. This genial work had been performed at a concert given by the Bach Choir in 1891, but no other renderings during the past half century can be traced. It is believed that the concerto was composed between 1727 and 1730, while Bach was residing at Leipzig. The opening movement contains two lively themes of florid character, while the Adagio exhibits gentler and less assertive music, a return being made in the final fugue, which is in five parts, to the bold and animated style of the first movement. Neat and attractive renderings of the pianoforte parts were given by the Misses Cerasoli, who answered prolonged applause by repeating the fugue. Able performances of Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony in B minor and 'Rosamunde' Overture, Mendelssohn's 'Hebrides' Overture, and Brahms's 'Tragic' Overture were achieved by the band.

FRITZ SIMROCK, head of the famous music-publishing house founded at Bonn in 1770, the year of Beethoven's birth, has recently died at Lausanne in the sixty-fifth year of his age. The *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* of August 29th, in noticing his death, refers to the high prices charged by that firm for Brahms's works, which thus prevented their wide circulation; recently, however, as that paper reminds its readers, Simrock had given his consent to a cheap edition of the master's symphonies and chamber music being issued by Herr Ernst Eulenburg of Leipzig.

THE *Berliner Lokalanzeiger* states that M. Edouard Colonne, director of the Paris Châtelet Concerts, has recently visited Berlin and arranged with Herr Hermann Wolff the details of the tour which he will make with his Paris orchestra through Germany in the autumn. Concerts will be given at Berlin, Carlsruhe, Frankfurt, Wiesbaden, Leipzig, Dresden, Vienna, Munich, &c. This will be the first visit of a Paris orchestra, and one of the best, to Germany.

# PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MON.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.
TUES.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.
WED.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.
FRI.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.
SAT.	Promenade Concert, 8. Queen's Hall.

## DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

COMEDY.—'When We were Twenty-one,' a Play in Four Acts. By H. V. Esmond.

THE new play by Mr. Esmond with which Mr. Goodwin begins his tenure of the Comedy Theatre is a favourable specimen of work written to order to suit a given actor or pair of actors. The necessity Mr. Esmond had to face was that of supplying Mr. Goodwin with a character comic on the outside, but with an undercurrent of tenderness and pathos, and to furnish him in addition with love scenes with Miss Maxine Elliott, at the present moment the sunniest and most piquant representative of prosperous affection. This task Mr. Esmond has accomplished, and his work, after holding possession for several weeks of the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, and other American houses, has begun at the Comedy what promises to be a no less successful career. Traces of effort are abundant. Thoroughly artificial and not wholly convincing is the main action. We suspect the thoroughness of Phyllis Ericson's love for her middle-

aged and obtuse lover, and we find the third act, which passes in a London "cock and hen club," almost as distinct an interpolation as the scenes of pageantry which during many consecutive years constituted a principal feature in a Drury Lane pantomime or melodrama.

In the preparation of his piece Mr. Esmond seems to have been inspired by recollections of Thackeray. His title reproduces the burden of 'The Garret':

In the brave days when I was twenty-one,  
itself a translation of Béranger's

Dans un grenier qu'on est bien à vingt ans!

There is, however, but one personage in the drama justified in claiming the burden as applicable, and his experience of the arrival of manhood is the reverse of pleasant. Those of the *dramatis persone* in whom we feel an active interest have been twenty-one (a lot common to surviving manhood), but are now more than twice that age. They were originally four in number. One of them has died, leaving behind him an infant son, over whose fortunes the survivors have presided, and who, from the general perversity of his disposition, is known as "the Imp." This youth makes a characteristically inept entry upon the responsibilities of life. Though without fortune beyond what his godfathers may give him and without any ostensible means of self-support, he signalizes his coming of age by marrying a middle-aged and disreputable *diva* of the music-halls. This act of moral suicide is naturally regarded as a calamity by his guardians, and one, the most devoted of all, Richard Carewe, strives vainly, at a large sacrifice of fortune, to save the youth from the penalties of his folly. In so doing he has been mainly influenced by the belief that the life of Phyllis Ericson, the *fiancée* of the scapegrace, will be sacrificed. The sentimental passages, which are the most interesting and sympathetic, are occupied by Richard's discovery that Phyllis cares nothing for her boy betrothed, but has given her heart to himself. More might and should be made of these scenes; the reticence of the hero and his incapacity to understand the good fortune that has befallen him might with advantage be accentuated, and Richard, instead of asking for the boon that is granted him, might with gain to the interest be bewildered by his happiness. Mr. Goodwin plays the hero, whose devotion to the son of his adoption meets with so agreeable reward, and shows with customary skill the gentleness and pathos underlying his comic gifts; Miss Maxine Elliott displays admirable brightness and grace as the fair and amorous Phyllis; and Miss Constance Collier, Mr. Crauford, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Sternroyd, and other actors give the piece adequate exposition. The third act, which changes the atmosphere of the people and presents in an odious light some we have begun to respect, is distasteful, and might with advantage be excised.

ON "VLLORXA" IN 'TIMON OF ATHENS,'  
III. iv. 112.

ONE last word on this discussion. In my opinion the passage can only be fully understood when considered in its entirety, and should be read as follows:—

Re-enter TIMON and FLAVIUS.

Tim. They have even put my breath from me, the slaves:  
Creditors? devils!  
Flav. My dear lord,—  
Tim. What if it should be so?  
Flav. My lord,—  
Tim. I'll have it so.—My steward!  
Flav. Here, my lord.  
Tim. So—fitly! Go, bid all my friends again,  
Lucius, Lucullus, and Sempronius,  
All lords, ay, all; I'll once more feast the rascals.  
Flav. O my lord!  
You only speak from your distracted soul;.....  
Tim. I charge thee, invite them all.

Timon enters in a state of extreme excitement and indignation with his "creditors." The expression "So—fitly!" unless it refer merely to the presence of the steward, probably means that Timon's plan of deceiving his "rascal friends" with a Barmecide feast has already matured itself in his mind, and that the banquet he intends for them will be a fitting punishment for their selfish aycophancy. If the reading of the Folio, viz., "So fitly!" be sound, I think the expression should be punctuated as above, although I am not at all certain that the reading is correct; and I feel strongly inclined to read "Go swiftly," which makes admirable sense. (Compare, however, "Fit I meet them" in V. i. 57 of this play.) Then follow Timon's rapid directions to his steward to carry out the plan. All his "friends" are to be invited, although the "three flattering lords" naturally first occur to him as special objects of his vengeance. No other name occurring among the *dramatis persone* is mentioned. The only other "flatterer" is Ventidius (Ventigius or Ventidius of the Folio), but his name, metrically speaking, is inadmissible here. What, then, is the explanation of "Vllorxa" being found in the text of the Folio? It is clear that there must have been some reason, good or bad, for its presence. The heroic remedy of the editor of the Second Folio and the other editors who follow suit, viz., its elimination from the text, does not solve the difficulty. Now it is worthy of note that in the Folio the three names Lucius, Lucullus, and Sempronius are, as is usual with proper names, printed in italics, and "Vllorxa" is also in italics. What is the significance of this? It simply means, I think, that some confusion must have arisen in the printer's mind as to how many specific names of "flattering lords" should be comprised in Timon's list. I think it extremely probable that the printer, owing perhaps to a defective state of the MS. from which he worked, imagined or assumed that at least another proper name was included in the list, instead of a general expression like "all lords," intended by Timon to comprise the remaining guests. Hence the introduction of the corruption, and its introduction in italics. The general term "all lords," used as a summary of the remaining "friends" of Timon, was negligently assumed to be a proper name, and took the form of this word (or rather collocation of letters) in the text. The printer obviously tried, as a glance at the Folio will show, to cram too many words into the line, which ought to have ended with Sempronius. The words represented by "Vllorxa" are attracted, as it were, from their own line into the preceding line, and form the supposed proper name "Vllorxa." The *ductus litterarum* of the corruption I have already dealt with, and the remarkable similarity of sound between the corruption and what I maintain is the correct reading speaks for itself. With the expression "all lords" we may compare the "mongst lords" of Sempronius in III. iii. 21, and the "divers lords" in III. vi. *init.* of this play.

It is possible, not to say probable, that the colon appearing in the Folio after "Vllorxa" is really a corruption of I, representing "ay," for which the former continually appears in the Folio; and so I would print it.

The next point I shall deal with is the metrical arrangement of l. 113, viz.:—

All lords, ay, all: I'll once more feast the rascals.

If there is one thing more common throughout the plays than another, it is this, that in the rapid interchange of dialogue Shakespeare constantly introduces what may be called an intermediate speech which can be read either as the ending of one line or as the beginning of the next. For example, in 'Macbeth,' II. iii. 100 :—

*Macb.* The wine of life is drawn, and the mere lees  
Is left this vault to brag of.  
*Don.* What is amiss?  
*Macb.* You are, and do not know 't.

Here the speech "What is amiss?" can be read either as the complement of Macbeth's first speech or the antecedent of his next, in order to form a perfect metrical line in each case. Similarly, in 'Lear,' I. i. 161 :—

*Kent.* See better, Lear; and let me still remain  
The true blank of thine eye.  
*Lear.* Now by Apollo—  
*Kent.* Now by Apollo, king,  
Thou swear'st thy gods in vain.

Instances of this usage can be multiplied indefinitely. The "I'll once more feast the rascals" of Timon can therefore be read either as forming a complete line with his "All lords, ay, all," or as the beginning of a new line ending with the "O my lord!" of Flavius.

Mr. Littledale (*Athenæum*, July 27th) is determined to stick to his "numerical guns," or some of them at least, for I observe that he rather gives up the idea of the final *a* of "Vllorxa" as standing for "other," although he does recognize the emphatic force of the word "all," which I repeat is clearly the key to the whole passage. Mr. Littledale quietly ignores my questions as to why these particular numbers "seven" or "ten" should have been selected by Timon as the number of his guests. And he has not attempted to bring forward any other passage in which numerals appear in this extraordinary fashion. His idea (*Athenæum*, July 27th) of the mocking feast gradually expanding and shaping itself in Timon's mind is, I fear, only the desperate defence of an untenable position. If I am right in my interpretation of the expression "So—fitly!" which, if it means anything, must mean that Timon has then definitely made up his mind as to the feast, the order to his steward comes out short, sharp, and decisive, and is without any trace of hesitation or "development of the thought." Lucius, Lucullus, and Sempronius are first and specially mentioned, simply because they are the "three flattering lords" named in the *dramatis persone*—the protagonists among Timon's flattering friends.

The German critic Leo was undoubtedly the first who started the fanciful and ridiculous theory that "Vllorxa" comprised a "collocation of Roman numerals and alphabetical letters," and I agree with Mr. Payne in his protest against any attempt to introduce into the text a reading based on conclusions derived from any such theory. But I do not agree with him in thinking that "Vllorxa" is merely an example of "dittography," or that its elements are to be found in the preceding names Lucullus and Sempronius. One element is, as I have already shown, to be found in the word "all," the letters "VII" beyond reasonable doubt representing that word.

Further, I entirely disagree with Mr. Payne when he says that "the *i* in Latin names terminating in -ius is almost invariably pronounced by Shakespeare as consonantal *y*, producing one syllable -*yus*." To my thinking the exact contrary is the case, and I agree with Mr. Littledale in his strictures (*Athenæum*, July 27th) on Mr. Payne's -*yus* pronunciation. From this play of 'Timon' there may be quoted as most certainly quadrisyllables the following: Lucilius, I. i. 111 and 114; Ventidius, III. iii. 3; Servilius, III. ii. 47; whilst Ventidius in I. i. 99, I. ii. 9, and II. ii. 29, and Hortensius in III. iv. 1, may be trisyllables, but are preferably, in my opinion, pronounced as dactylic, i.e., as quadrisyllables. Shakespeare very pro-

bably had some slight knowledge of Italian. Would not the continental (and of course the English) pronunciation of Italian in his day favour the dactylic ending and not the consonantal pronunciation? Romeo as a trisyllable is very familiar to us.

Examples, however, of Latin names from this and other plays simply show that Shakespeare had no fixed usage. Dramatic necessity would no doubt fix the pronunciation—whether in three or four syllables—if indeed it did not, as I suspect, vary with the idiosyncrasy of each individual actor. This question of the pronunciation of Latin names, however, is of itself a matter of the smallest importance in respect of this passage, and its only bearing is on the question whether the line is to end with "Sempronius" or with "all," the word which follows "Vllorxa" in the Folio.

To sum up this discussion: from my point of view the question at issue on this passage in 'Timon' is not, as Mr. Payne seems to imagine, between the Gordian excision of the Second and succeeding Folios and the interpretations of critics like Dr. Leo and Mr. Littledale with their "collocation of Roman numerals" and the rest of it, but between these last-mentioned critics and those who, with the deepest respect for the authority of the Folio, are loth to depart from its readings if they are capable of a sane literal explanation. To use a vulgar phrase, the Second Folio "is not in it." The textual critics of the future will ever, I trust, remember the inscriptions behead by Spenser's Britomart in the castle of Busyrane, "Be bold, be bold, and everywhere be bold. Be not too bold." Mr. Littledale is too bold.  
HENRY CUNINGHAM, M.A.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

THE Century Theatre will open on the 11th inst. with 'The Whirl of the Town'; the Shaftesbury will follow on the 12th with 'Are You a Mason?' and the St. James's on the 16th with a revival of 'The Elder Miss Blossom.' Mr. Carton's new play, to be given at the Criterion on the 14th, has been named 'The Undercurrent.'

WE fail to grasp the reason for the change or on what knowledge managerial anticipations are based, but the autumn season at the theatres bids fair to be the earliest as well as the busiest of recent years.

IN consequence of the title 'The Hon. Member' having been claimed, the piece of Mr. Stuart Ogilvie with which the Court reopened on Thursday has been renamed 'John Durnford, M.P.'

'BECKY SHARP' has now been abridged, with a distinct gain to its hold on the public. It is almost incomprehensible that managements fail to realize that they have to depend on a suburban public, and that to attempt to hold it late is to court calamity.

MISS KATE RORKE will take the part of Wanda in the adaptation of Ouida's novel with which the Princess's Theatre will shortly resume its position as a West-End house.

A FRESH adaptation of Dickens's 'Christmas Carol' is promised at the Vaudeville. In this Mr. Seymour Hicks will play Scrooge and Mr. Holbrook Blinn Marley's Ghost.

IN consequence of the success of 'The Night of the Party' Mr. Weedon Grossmith has extended until January his tenure of the Avenue. Mr. W. T. Lovell is the latest addition to the company.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. T. D.—received.  
J. H. L. S.—forwarded.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

Erratum.—No. 3853, p. 278, col. 2, line 1, for "Boniface III." read Boniface VIII.

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